



Approximation Techniques

bounded inference

COMPSCI 276, Spring 2011
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(Reading: Primary: Class Notes (8)
Secondary: , Darwiche chapters 14)

Probabilistic Inference

Tasks

- Belief updating:

$$\text{BEL}(X_i) = \mathbf{P}(X_i = x_i \mid \text{evidence})$$

- Finding most probable explanation (MPE)

$$\bar{x}^* = \mathbf{arg\,max}_{\bar{x}} \mathbf{P}(\bar{x}, \mathbf{e})$$

- Finding maximum a-posteriori hypothesis

$$(\mathbf{a}_1^*, \dots, \mathbf{a}_k^*) = \mathbf{arg\,max}_{\bar{\mathbf{a}}} \sum_{X/A} \mathbf{P}(\bar{x}, \mathbf{e})$$

$A \subseteq X$:
hypothesis variables

- Finding maximum-expected-utility (MEU) decision

$$(\mathbf{d}_1^*, \dots, \mathbf{d}_k^*) = \mathbf{arg\,max}_{\mathbf{d}} \sum_{X/D} \mathbf{P}(\bar{x}, \mathbf{e}) \mathbf{U}(\bar{x})$$

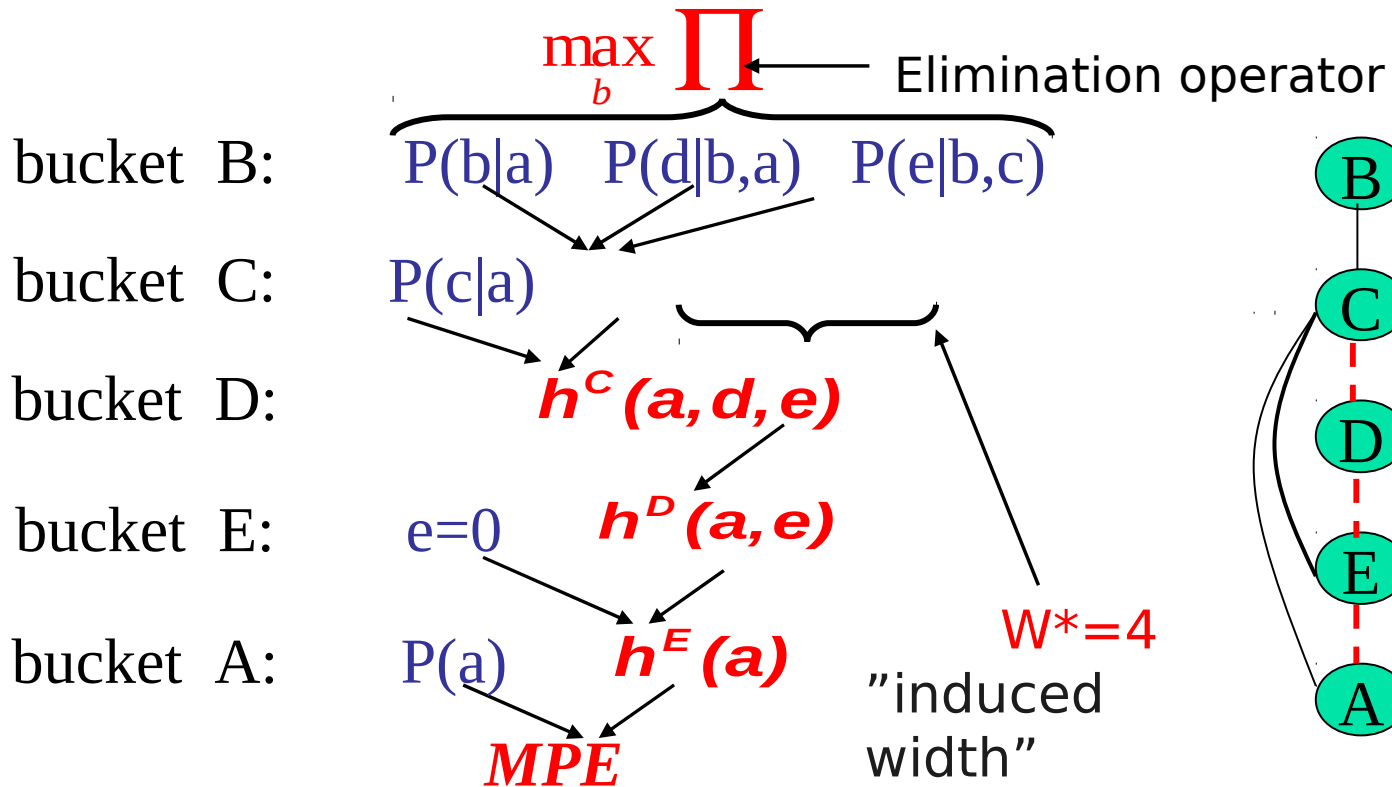
$D \subseteq X$: decision variables
 $U(\bar{x})$: utility function

Finding $MPE = \max_{\bar{x}} P(\bar{x})$

Algorithm *elim-mpe* (Dechter 1996)

\sum is replaced by *max* :

$$MPE = \max_{a,e,d,c,b} P(a)P(c|a)P(b|a)P(d|a,b)P(e|b,c)$$





Generating the MPE-tuple

5. $b' = \arg \max_b P(b | a') \times P(d' | b, a') \times P(e' | b, c')$

4. $c' = \arg \max_c P(c | a') \times h^B(a', d', c, e')$

3. $d' = \arg \max_d h^C(a', d, e')$

2. $e' = 0$

1. $a' = \arg \max_a P(a) \cdot h^E(a)$

B: $P(b|a) \quad P(d|b,a) \quad P(e|b,c)$

C: $P(c|a) \quad h^B(a, d, c, e)$

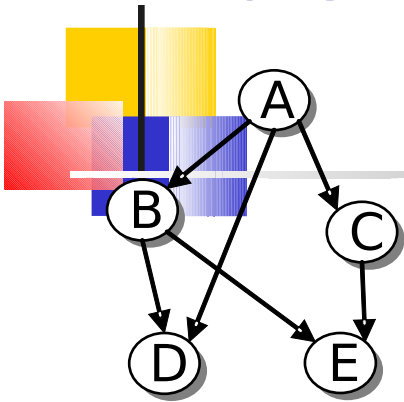
D: $h^C(a, d, e)$

E: $e=0 \quad h^D(a, e)$

A: $P(a) \quad h^E(a)$

Return (a', b', c', d', e')

Bucket Elimination

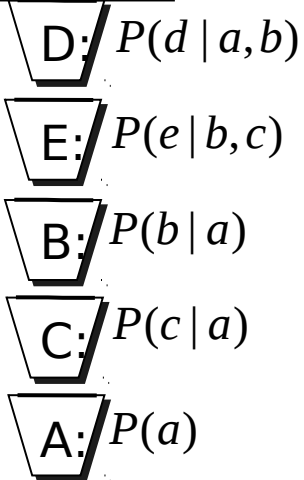


Query $P(a | e = 0) \propto P(a, e = 0)$

Elimination Order:

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore P(a, e = 0) &= \sum_{c, b, e=0, d} P(a)P(b|a)P(c|a)P(d|a,b)P(e|b,c) \\ &= P(a) \sum_c P(c|a) \sum_b P(b|a) \sum_{e=0} P(e|b,c) \sum_d P(d|a,b) \end{aligned}$$

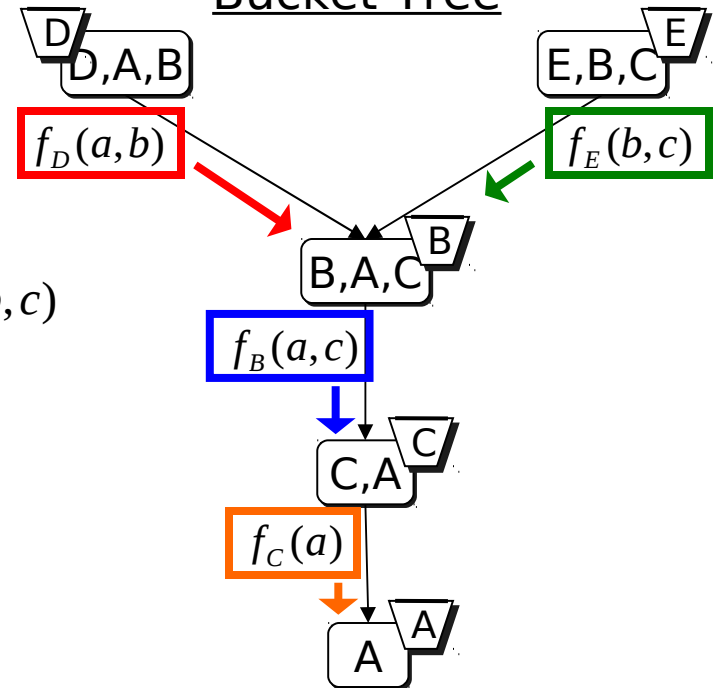
Original Functions



Message

$$\begin{aligned} f_D(a,b) &= \sum_d P(d|a,b) \\ f_E(b,c) &= P(e=0|b,c) \\ f_B(a,c) &= \sum_b P(b|a) f_D(a,b) f_E(b,c) \\ f_C(a) &= \sum_c P(c|a) f_B(a,c) \\ P(a, e = 0) &= p(A) f_C(a) \end{aligned}$$

Bucket Tree



Time and space $\exp(w^*)$



Approximate Inference

- Metrics of evaluation
- **Absolute error:** given $\epsilon > 0$ and a query $p = P(x|e)$, an estimate r has absolute error ϵ iff $|p - r| < \epsilon$
- **Relative error:** the ratio r/p in $[1 - \epsilon, 1 + \epsilon]$.
- Dagum and Luby 1993: approximation up to a relative error is NP-hard.
- Absolute error is also NP-hard if error is less than .5

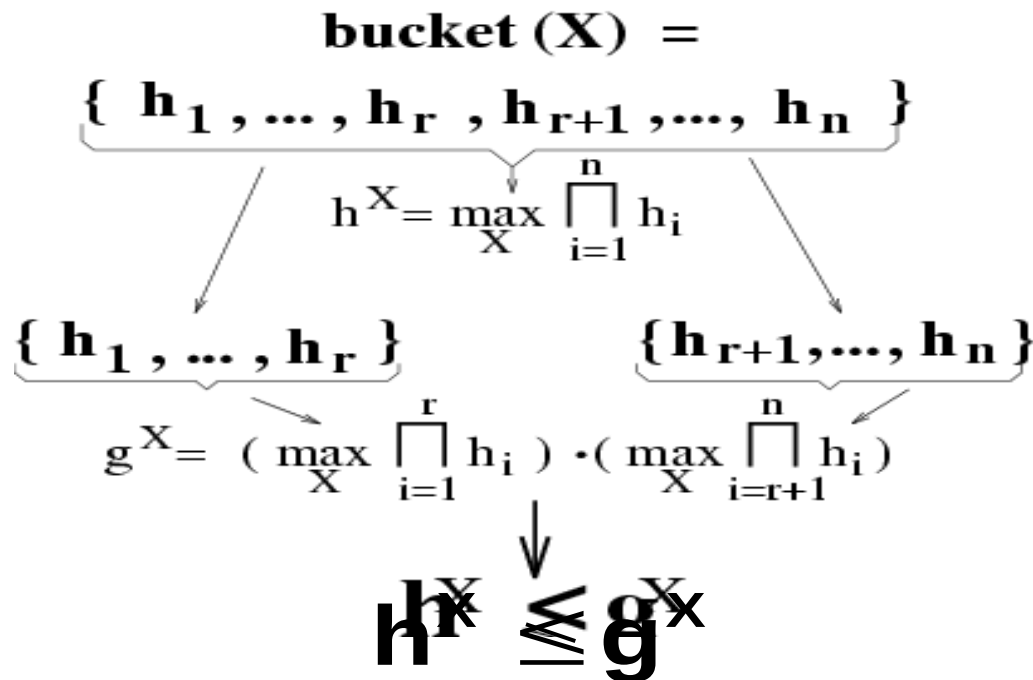


Mini-buckets: “local inference”

- Computation in a bucket is time and space exponential in the number of variables involved
- Therefore, partition functions in a bucket into “mini-buckets” on smaller number of variables

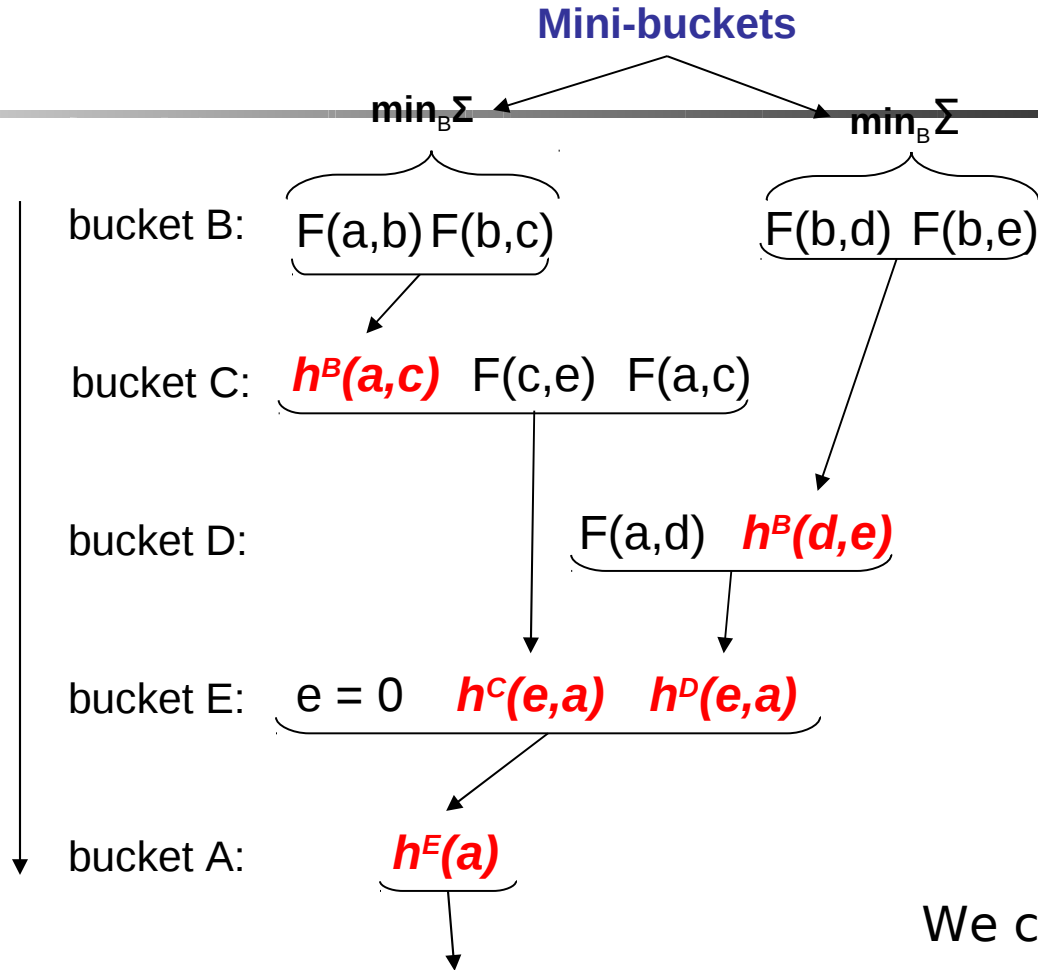
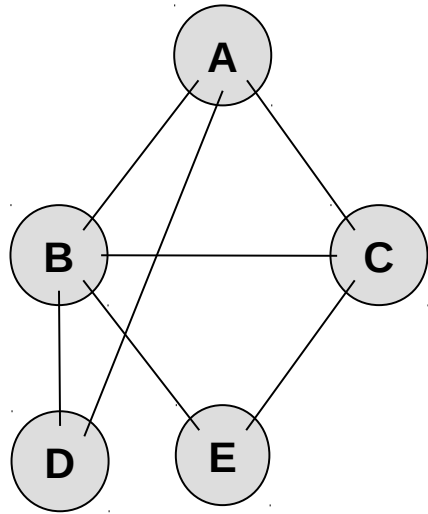
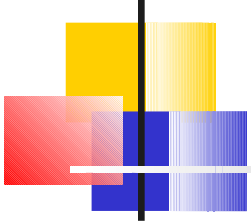
Mini-bucket approximation: MPE task

Split a bucket into mini-buckets => bound complexity



Exponential complexity decrease: $O(e^n) \rightarrow O(e^r) + O(e^{n-r})$

Mini-Bucket Elimination



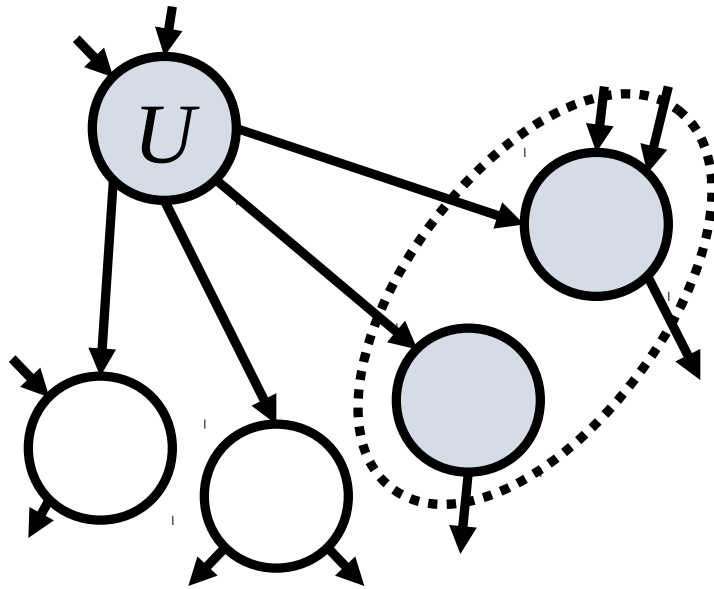
L = lower bound

We can generate a solution s going forward as before

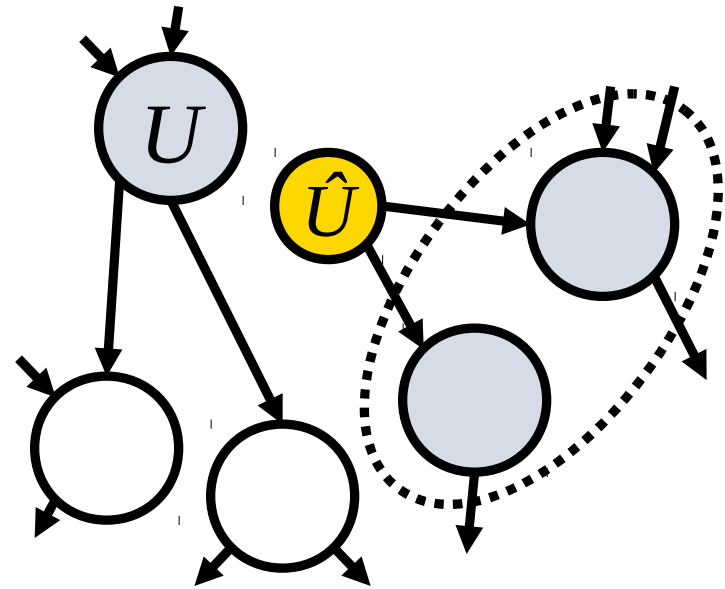
Semantics of Mini-Bucket: Splitting a Node

Variables in different buckets are renamed and duplicated
(Kask *et. al.*, 2001), (Geffner *et. al.*, 2007), (Choi, Chavira, Darwiche , 2007)

Before Splitting:
Network N



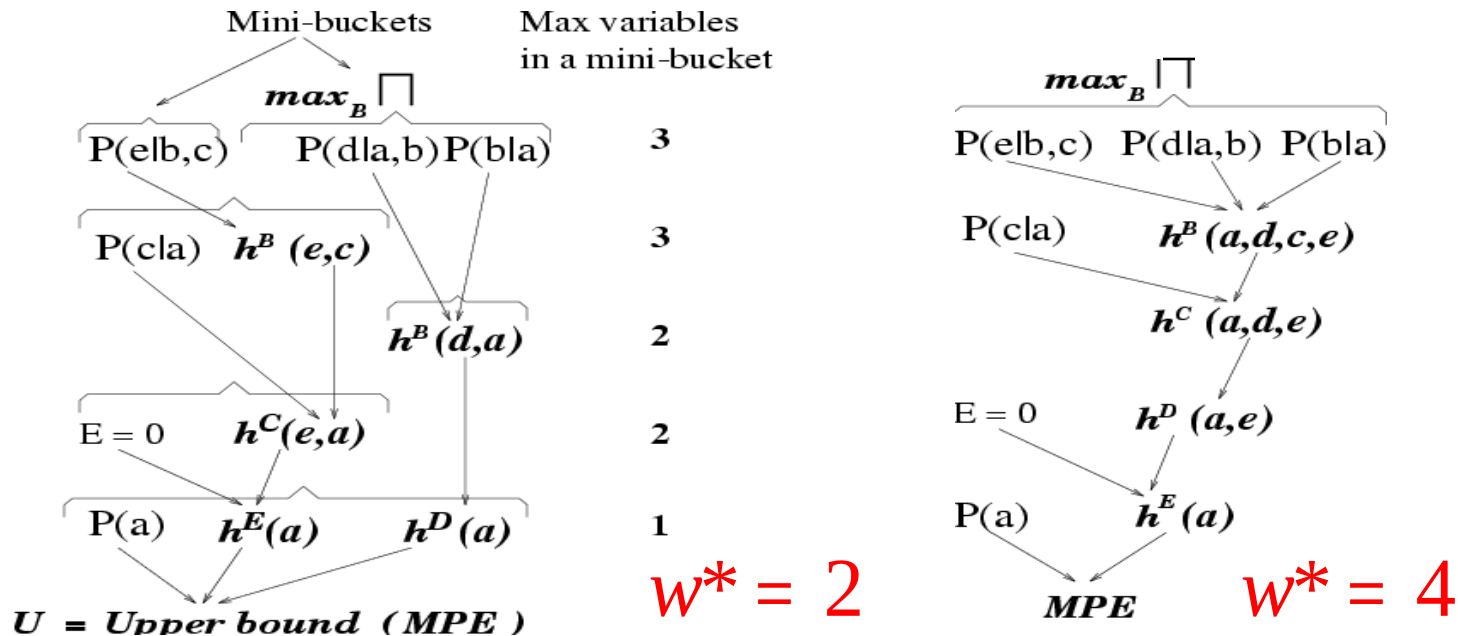
After Splitting:
Network N'



Approx-mpe(i)

- Input: i - max number of variables allowed in a mini-bucket
- Output: [lower bound (P of a sub-optimal solution), upper bound]

Example: **approx-mpe(3)** versus **elim-mpe**





(i, m) partitionings

Definition 7.1.1 ((i, m) -partitioning) *Let H be a collection of functions h_1, \dots, h_t defined on scopes S_1, \dots, S_t , respectively. We say that a function f is subsumed by a function h if any argument of f is also an argument of h . A partitioning of h_1, \dots, h_t is canonical if any function f subsumed by another function is placed into the bucket of one of those subsuming functions. A partitioning Q into mini-buckets is an (i, m) -partitioning if and only if (1) it is canonical, (2) at most m non-subsumed functions are included in each mini-bucket, (3) the total number of variables in a mini-bucket does not exceed i , and (4) the partitioning is refinement-maximal, namely, there is no other (i, m) -partitioning that it refines.*



MBE(i,m), (MBE(i) , approx-mpe)

- Input: Belief network (P1,...Pn)
- Output: upper and lower bounds
- Initialize: (put functions in buckets)
- Process each bucket from $p=n$ to 1
 - Create (i,m)-mini-buckets
 - Process each mini-bucket
- (For mpe): assign values in ordering d
- Return: mpe-tuple, upper and lower bounds

Algorithm mbe-mpe(i,m)

Input: A belief network $BN = (G, P)$, an ordering o , evidence \bar{e} .

Output: An upper bound U and a lower bound L on the $MPE = \max_{\bar{x}} P(\bar{x}, \bar{e})$, and a suboptimal solution \bar{x}^a that provides $L = P(\bar{x}^a)$.

1. **Initialize:** Partition $P = \{P_1, \dots, P_n\}$ into buckets $bucket_1, \dots, bucket_n$, where $bucket_p$ contains all CPTs h_1, h_2, \dots, h_t whose highest-index variable is X_p .
2. **Backward:** for $p = n$ to 2 do
 - If X_p is observed ($X_p = a$), assign $X_p = a$ in each h_j and put the result in its highest-variable bucket (put constants in $bucket_1$).
 - Else for h_1, h_2, \dots, h_t in $bucket_p$ do
Generate an (i, m) -mini-bucket-partitioning, $Q' = \{Q_1, \dots, Q_r\}$.
for each $Q_l \in Q'$ containing h_{l_1}, \dots, h_{l_t} , do
compute $h^l = \max_{X_p} \prod_{j=1}^t h_{l_j}$ and place it in the bucket of the highest-index variable in $U_l \leftarrow \bigcup_{j=1}^t S_{l_j} - \{X_p\}$, where S_{l_j} is the scope of h_{l_j} (put constants in $bucket_1$).
3. **Forward:** for $p = 1$ to n , given x_1^a, \dots, x_{p-1}^a , do
assign a value x_p^a to X_p that maximizes the product of all functions in $bucket_p$.
4. **Return** the assignment $\bar{x}^a = (x_1^a, \dots, x_n^a)$, a lower bound $L = P(\bar{x}^a)$, and an upper bound $U = \max_{x_1} \prod_{h_j \in bucket_1} h^j$ on the $MPE = \max_{\bar{x}} P(\bar{x}, \bar{e})$.

Theorem 7.1.3 (mbe-mpe properties) *Algorithm mbe-mpe(i, m) computes an upper bound on the MPE. Its time and space complexity is $O(n \cdot \exp(i))$ where $i \leq n$.*



Partitioning refinements

Clearly, as the mini-buckets get smaller, both complexity and accuracy decrease.

Definition 7.1.4 *Given two partitionings Q' and Q'' over the same set of elements, Q' is a refinement of Q'' if and only if for every set $A \in Q'$ there exists a set $B \in Q''$ such that $A \subseteq B$.*

It is easy to see that:

Proposition 7.1.5 *If Q'' is a refinement of Q' in bucket_p , then $h^p \leq g_{Q'}^p \leq g_{Q''}^p$.*

Remember that *mbe-mpe* computes the bounds on $MPE = \max_{\bar{x}} P(\bar{x}, \bar{e})$, rather than on $M = \max_{\bar{x}} P(\bar{x}|\bar{e}) = MPE/P(\bar{e})$. Thus

$$\frac{L}{P(\bar{e})} \leq M \leq \frac{U}{P(\bar{e})}$$



Properties of approx-mpe(i)

- **Complexity:** $O(\exp(i))$ time and $O(\exp(i))$ space.
- **Accuracy:** determined by upper/lower (U/L) bound.
- As i increases, both accuracy and complexity increase.
- Possible use of mini-bucket approximations:
 - As **anytime algorithms** (Dechter and Rish, 1997)
 - As **heuristics** in best-first search (Kask and Dechter, 1999)



Anytime Approximation

anytime - mpe(ε)

Initialize : $i = i_0$

While time and space resources are available

$i \leftarrow i + i_{step}$

$U \leftarrow$ upper bound computed by *approx - mpe(i)*

$L \leftarrow$ lower bound computed by *approx - mpe(i)*

if $U = L$, return exact optimal solution (certificate of optimality)

keep the best solution found so far

if $1 \leq \frac{U}{L} \leq 1 + \varepsilon$, return solution

end

return the largest L and the smallest U

Bounded Inference for Belief Updating for probability of evidence

- Idea mini-bucket is the same:

$$\sum_x f(x) \cdot g(x) \leq \sum_x f(x) \cdot \sum_x g(x)$$

$$\sum_x f(x) \cdot g(x) \leq \sum_x f(x) \cdot \max_x g(x)$$

- So we can apply a sum in each mini-bucket, or better, one sum and the rest max, or min (for lower-bound)
- MBE-bel-max(i,m), MBE-bel-min(i,m)** generating upper and lower-bound on beliefs approximates BE-bel
- MBE-map(i,m): max buckets will be maximized, sum buckets will be sum-max. Approximates BE-map.

Algorithm mbe-bel-max(i,m)

Algorithm mbe-bel-max(i,m)

Input: A belief network $BN = (G, P)$, an ordering o , and evidence \bar{e} .

Output: an upper bound on $P(x_1, \bar{e})$ and an upper bound on $P(e)$.

1. **Initialize:** Partition $P = \{P_1, \dots, P_n\}$ into buckets $bucket_1, \dots, bucket_n$, where $bucket_k$ contains all CPTs h_1, h_2, \dots, h_t whose highest-index variable is X_k .
2. **Backward:** for $k = n$ to 2 do
 - **If** X_p is observed ($X_k = a$), assign $X_k \leftarrow a$ in each h_j and put the result in the highest-variable bucket of its scope (put constants in $bucket_1$).
 - **Else** for h_1, h_2, \dots, h_t in $bucket_k$ do
 - Generate an (i, m) -mini-bucket-partitioning, $Q' = \{Q_1, \dots, Q_r\}$.
 - For each** $Q_l \in Q'$, containing h_{i_1}, \dots, h_{i_t} , do
 - If** $l = 1$ compute $h^l = \sum_{X_k} \prod_{j=1}^t h_{i_j}$
 - Else** compute $h^l = \max_{X_k} \prod_{j=1}^t h_{i_j}$
 - Add h^l to the bucket of the highest-index variable in $U_l \leftarrow \bigcup_{j=1}^t S_{i_j} - \{X_k\}$, (put constant functions in $bucket_1$).
3. **Return** $Prime(x_1bar, e) < --$ the product of functions in the bucket of which is an upper bound on $P(x_1, \bar{e})$.
 $Prime(e) < -- \sum_{x_1} Prime(x_1bar, e)$, which upper bound on probability of evidence.

Figure 7.5: Algorithm $mbe-bel-max(i,m)$.



Empirical Evaluation

(Dechter and Rish, 1997; Rish thesis, 1999)

- Randomly generated networks
 - Uniform random probabilities
 - Random noisy-OR
- CPCS networks
- Probabilistic decoding

Comparing MBE-mpe and anytime-mpe
versus BE-mpe

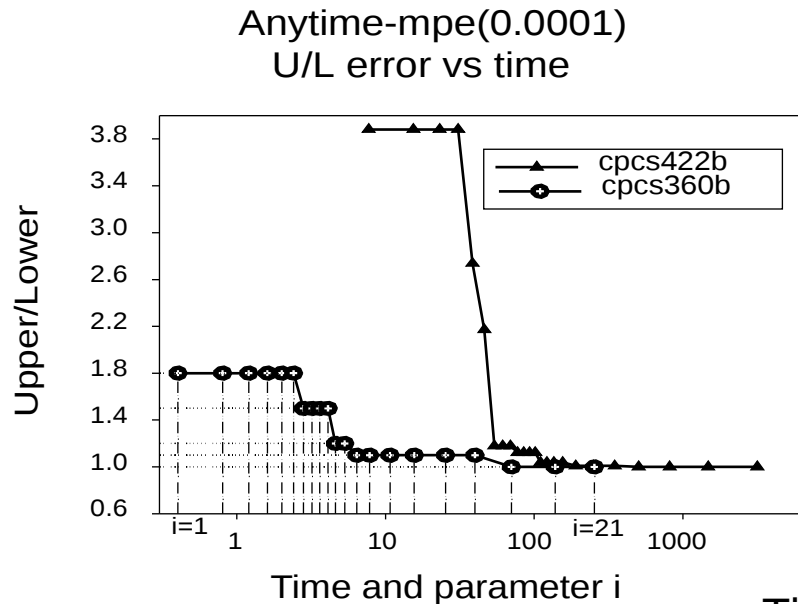
Methodology for Empirical Evaluation (for mpe)



- U/L -accuracy
- Better (U/mpe) or mpe/L
- Benchmarks: Random networks
 - Given n, e, v generate a random DAG
 - For x_i and parents generate table from uniform $[0,1]$, or noisy-or
- Create k instances. For each, generate random evidence, likely evidence
- Measure averages

CPCS networks – medical diagnosis (noisy-OR model)

Test case: no evidence

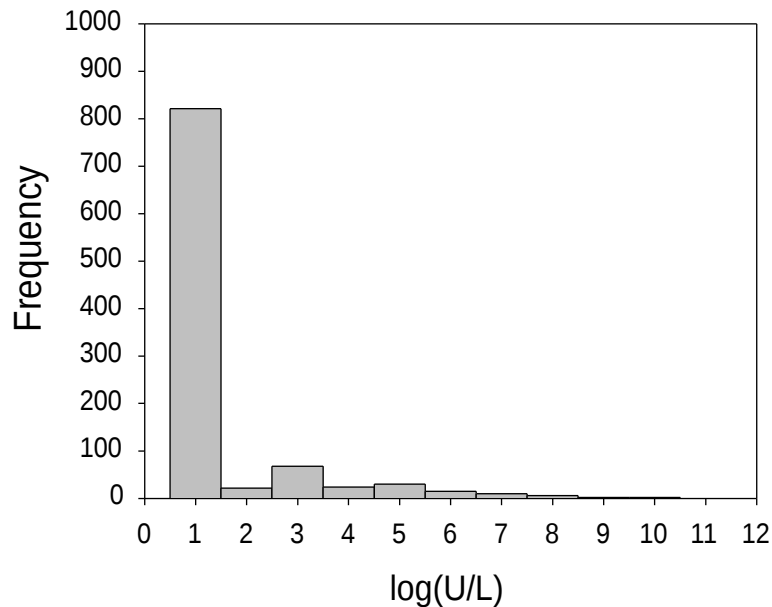


Algorithm	Time (sec)	
	cpcs360	cpcs422
elim-mpe	115.8	1697.6
anytime-mpe ($\epsilon = 10^{-4}$)	70.3	505.2
anytime-mpe ($\epsilon = 10^{-1}$)	70.3	110.5

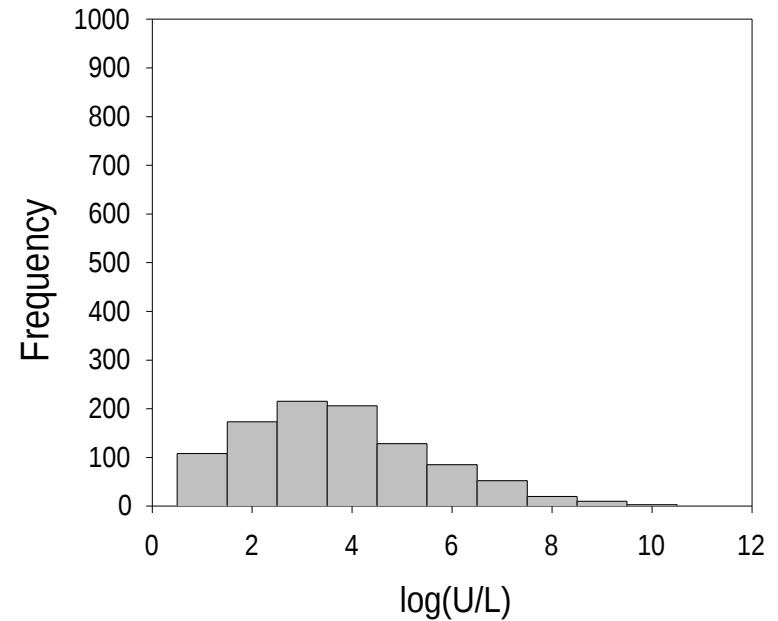
The effect of evidence

More likely evidence => higher MPE => higher accuracy
(why?)

log(U/L) histogram for i=10 on
1000 instances of likely evidence



log(U/L) histogram for i=10 on
1000 instances of random evidence



Likely evidence versus random (unlikely) evidence



MBE-map

Process max buckets
 With max mini-buckets
 And sum buckets with su
 Mini-bucket and max
 mini-buckets

Algorithm mbe-map(i, m)

Input: A belief network $BN = (G, P)$, a subset of variables $A = \{A_1, \dots, A_k\}$, an ordering of the variables, o , in which the A 's appear first, and evidence \bar{e} .

Output: An upper bound U on the MAP and a suboptimal solution $A = \bar{a}_k^a$.

1. **Initialize:** Partition $P = \{P_1, \dots, P_n\}$ into buckets $bucket_1, \dots, bucket_n$ where $bucket_p$ contains all CPTs, h_1, \dots, h_t whose highest index variable is X_p .

2. **Backward:** for $p = n$ to 1 do

- If X_p is observed ($X_p = a$), assign $X_p = a$ in each h_i and put the result in its highest-variable bucket (put constants in $bucket_1$).

- Else for h_1, h_2, \dots, h_j in $bucket_p$ do

Generate an (i, m) -partitioning, Q' of the matrices h_i into mini-buckets Q_1, \dots, Q_r .

- If $X_p \notin A$ /* not a hypothesis variable */

for each $Q_l \in Q'$, containing h_{i_1}, \dots, h_{i_t} , do

 If $l = 1$, compute $h^l = \sum_{X_p} \prod_{i=1}^t h_{i_i}$

 Else compute $h^l = \max_{X_p} \prod_{i=1}^t h_{i_i}$

 Add h^l to the bucket of the highest-index variable in $U_l \leftarrow \bigcup_{i=1}^t S_{i_i} - \{X_p\}$, (put constants in $bucket_1$).

- Else ($X_p \in A$) /* a hypothesis variable */

for each $Q_l \in Q'$ containing h_{i_1}, \dots, h_{i_t} compute $h^l = \max_{X_p} \prod_{i=1}^t h_{i_i}$ and place it in the bucket of the highest-index variable in $U_l \leftarrow \bigcup_{i=1}^t S_{i_i} - \{X_p\}$, (put constants in $bucket_1$).

3. **Forward:** for $p = 1$ to k , given $A_1 = a_1^a, \dots, A_{p-1} = a_{p-1}^a$,

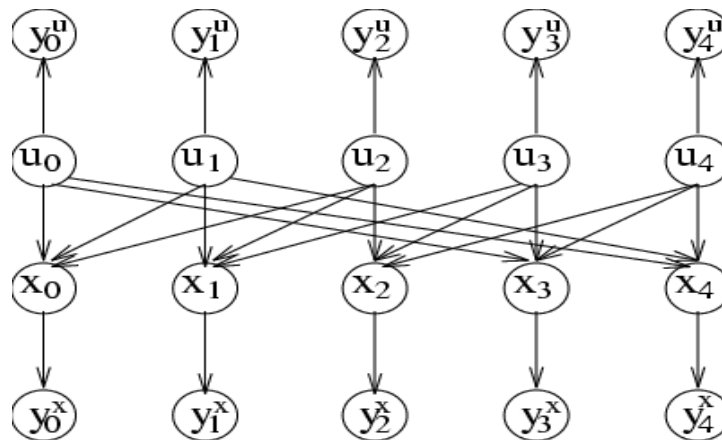
assign a value a_p^a to A_p that maximizes the product of all functions in $bucket_p$.

4. **Return** An upper bound $U = \max_{a_1} \prod_{h_i \in bucket_1} h_i$ on MAP , computed in the first bucket, and the assignment $\bar{a}_k^a = (a_1^a, \dots, a_k^a)$.

Figure 7.6: Algorithm $mbe-map(i, m)$.

Probabilistic decoding

Error-correcting linear block code



State-of-the-art:

approximate algorithm - iterative belief propagation (IBP)
(Pearl's poly-tree algorithm applied to loopy networks)

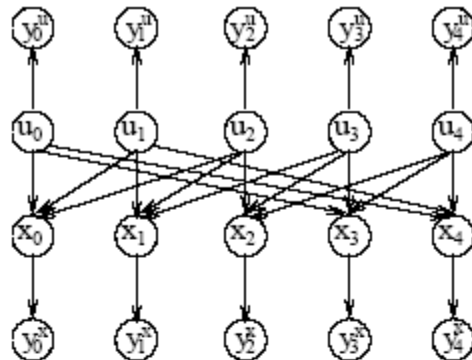


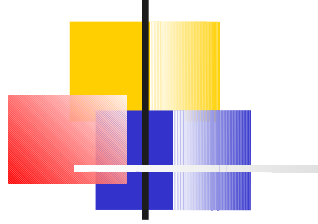
Figure 7.7: Belief network for a linear block code.

Example 7.3.1 We will next demonstrate the mini-bucket approximation for MAP on an example of *probabilistic decoding* (see Chapter 2) Consider a belief network which describes the decoding of a *linear block code*, shown in Figure 7.7. In this network, U_i are *information bits* and X_j are *code bits*, which are functionally dependent on U_i . The vector (U, X) , called the channel input, is transmitted through a noisy channel which adds Gaussian noise and results in the channel output vector $Y = (Y^u, Y^x)$. The decoding task is to assess the most likely values for the U 's given the observed values $Y = (\bar{y}^u, \bar{y}^x)$, which is the MAP task where U is the set of hypothesis variables, and $Y = (\bar{y}^u, \bar{y}^x)$ is the evidence. After processing the observed buckets we get the following bucket configuration (lower case y 's are observed values):

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{bucket}(X_0) &= P(y_0^x|X_0), P(X_0|U_0, U_1, U_2), \\
 \text{bucket}(X_1) &= P(y_1^x|X_1), P(X_1|U_1, U_2, U_3), \\
 \text{bucket}(X_2) &= P(y_2^x|X_2), P(X_2|U_2, U_3, U_4), \\
 \text{bucket}(X_3) &= P(y_3^x|X_3), P(X_3|U_3, U_4, U_0), \\
 \text{bucket}(X_4) &= P(y_4^x|X_4), P(X_4|U_4, U_0, U_1), \\
 \text{bucket}(U_0) &= P(U_0), P(y_0^u|U_0), \\
 \text{bucket}(U_1) &= P(U_1), P(y_1^u|U_1), \\
 \text{bucket}(U_2) &= P(U_2), P(y_2^u|U_2), \\
 \text{bucket}(U_3) &= P(U_3), P(y_3^u|U_3), \\
 \text{bucket}(U_4) &= P(U_4), P(y_4^u|U_4).
 \end{aligned}$$

Initial
partitioning

Processing by $mbe\text{-map}(4,1)$ of the first top five buckets by summation and the rest by maximization, results in the following mini-bucket partitionings and function generation:



$$\begin{aligned}
\text{bucket}(X_0) &= \{P(y_0^x|X_0), P(X_0|U_0, U_1, U_2)\}, \\
\text{bucket}(X_1) &= \{P(y_1^x|X_1), P(X_1|U_1, U_2, U_3)\}, \\
\text{bucket}(X_2) &= \{P(y_2^x|X_2), P(X_2|U_2, U_3, U_4)\}, \\
\text{bucket}(X_3) &= \{P(y_3^x|X_3), P(X_3|U_3, U_4, U_0)\}, \\
\text{bucket}(X_4) &= \{P(y_4^x|X_4), P(X_4|U_4, U_0, U_1)\}, \\
\text{bucket}(U_0) &= \{P(U_0), P(y_0^u|U_0), h^{X_0}(U_0, U_1, U_2)\}, \{h^{X_3}(U_3, U_4, U_0)\}, \{h^{X_4}(U_4, U_0, U_1)\}, \\
\text{bucket}(U_1) &= \{P(U_1), P(y_1^u|U_1), h^{X_1}(U_1, U_2, U_3), h^{U_0}(U_1, U_2)\}, \{h^{U_0}(U_4, U_1)\}, \\
\text{bucket}(U_2) &= \{P(U_2), P(y_2^u|U_2), h^{X_2}(U_2, U_3, U_4), h^{U_1}(U_2, U_3)\}, \\
\text{bucket}(U_3) &= \{P(U_3), P(y_3^u|U_3), h^{U_0}(U_3, U_4), h^{U_1}(U_3, U_4), h^{U_2}(U_3, U_4)\}, \\
\text{bucket}(U_4) &= \{P(U_4), P(y_4^u|U_4), h^{U_1}(U_4), h^{U_3}(U_4)\}.
\end{aligned}$$

The first five buckets are not partitioned at all and are processed as full buckets, since in this case a full bucket is a (4,1)-partitioning. This processing generates five new functions, three are placed in bucket U_0 , one in bucket U_1 and one in bucket U_2 . Then bucket U_0 is partitioned into three mini-buckets processed by maximization, creating two functions placed in bucket U_1 and one function placed in bucket U_3 . Bucket U_1 is partitioned into two mini-buckets, generating functions placed in bucket U_2 and bucket U_3 . Subsequent buckets are processed as full buckets. Note that the scope of recorded functions is bounded by 3.

In the bucket of U_4 we get an upper bound U satisfying $U \geq MAP = P(U, \bar{y}^u, \bar{y}^x)$ where \bar{y}^u and \bar{y}^x are the observed outputs for the U 's and the X 's bits transmitted. In order to bound $P(U|\bar{e})$, where $\bar{e} = (\bar{y}^u, \bar{y}^x)$, we need $P(\bar{e})$ which is not available. Yet, again, in most cases we are interested in the ratio $P(U = \bar{u}_1|\bar{e})/P(U = \bar{u}_2|\bar{e})$ for competing hypotheses $U = \bar{u}_1$ and $U = \bar{u}_2$ rather than in the absolute values. Since $P(U|\bar{e}) = P(U, \bar{e})/P(\bar{e})$ and the probability of the evidence is just a constant factor independent of U , the ratio is equal to $P(U_1, \bar{e})/P(U_2, \bar{e})$. \square



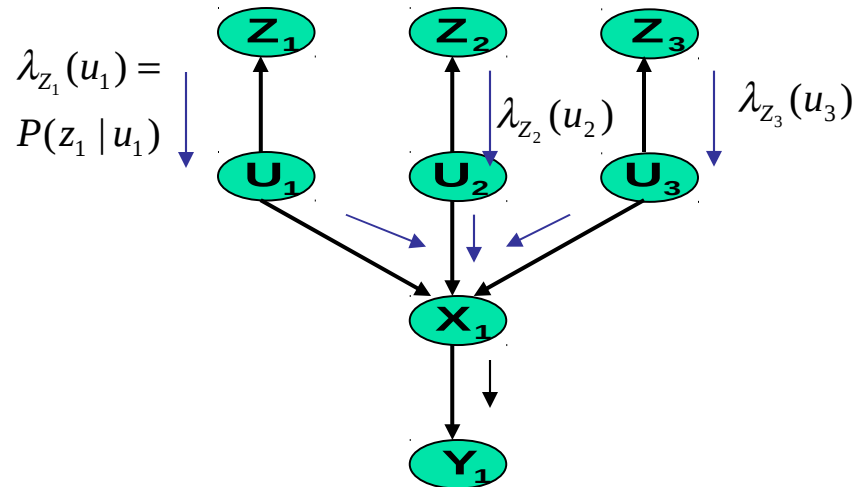
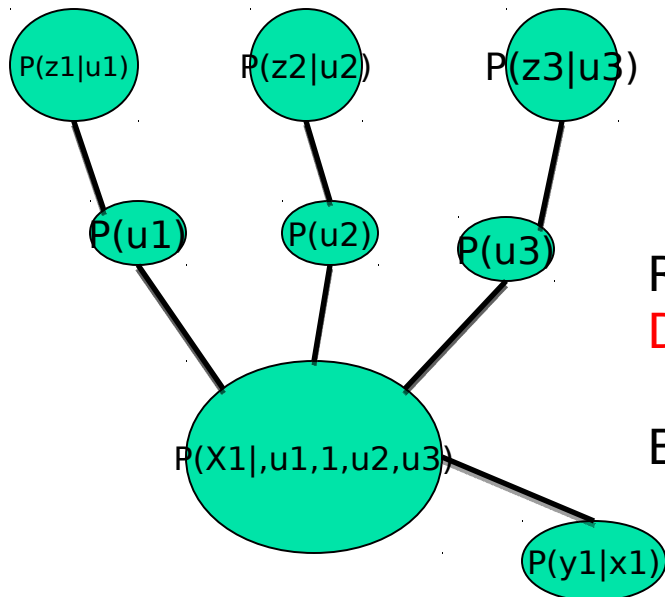
Complexity and tractability of MBE(i,m)

Theorem 7.6.1 *Algorithm $\text{mbe}(i,m)$ takes $O(r \cdot \exp(i))$ time and space, where r is the number of input functions², and where $|F|$ is the maximum scope of any input function, $|F| \leq i \leq n$. For $m = 1$, the algorithm is time and space $O(r \cdot \exp(|F|))$.*

Belief propagation is easy on polytree: Pearl's Belief Propagation

A polytree: a tree with larger families

A polytree decomposition

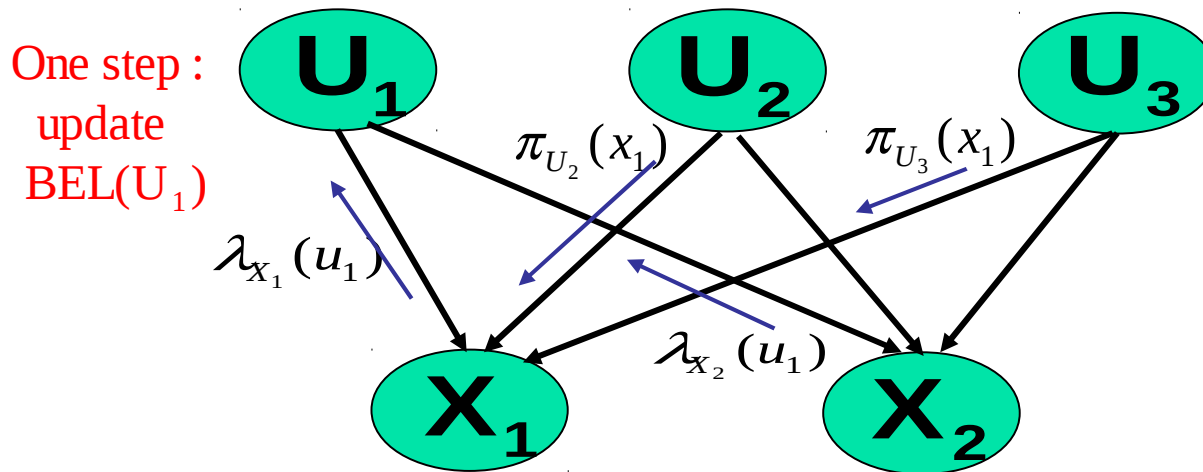


Running CTE = running Pearl's BP over the dual graph
Dual-graph: nodes are cpts, arcs connect non-empty intersections.

BP is Time and space linear

Iterative Belief Propagation

- Belief propagation is exact for poly-trees
- IBP - applying BP iteratively to cyclic networks

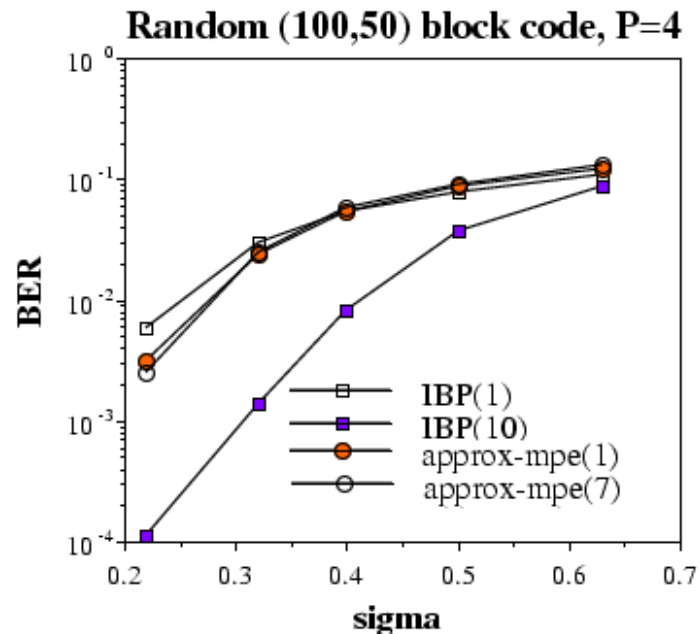
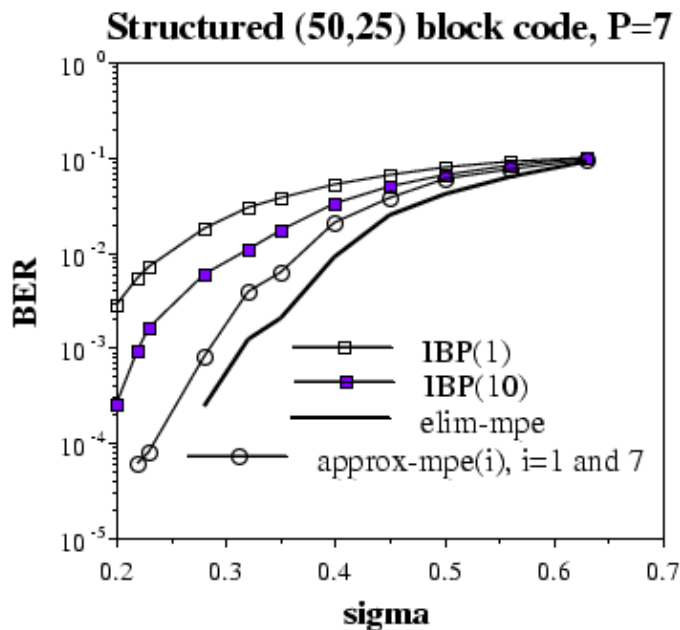


- No guarantees for convergence
- Works well for many coding networks

MBE-mpe vs. IBP

approx - mpe is better on low - w^* codes
IBP is better on randomly generated (high - w^*) codes

Bit error rate (BER) as a function of noise (sigma):





Mini-buckets: summary

- Mini-buckets – local inference approximation
- Idea: bound size of recorded functions
- Approx-mpe(i) - mini-bucket algorithm for MPE
 - Better results for noisy-OR than for random problems
 - Accuracy increases with decreasing noise in coding
 - Accuracy increases for likely evidence
 - Sparser graphs -> higher accuracy
 - Coding networks: approx-mpe outperforms IBP on low-induced width codes

Cluster Tree Elimination - properties

- Correctness and completeness: Algorithm CTE is correct, i.e. it computes the exact joint probability of a single variable and the evidence.

- Time complexity: $O (deg \times (n+N) \times d^{w^*+1})$

- Space complexity: $O (N \times d^{sep})$

where deg = the maximum degree of a node

n = number of variables (= number of CPTs)

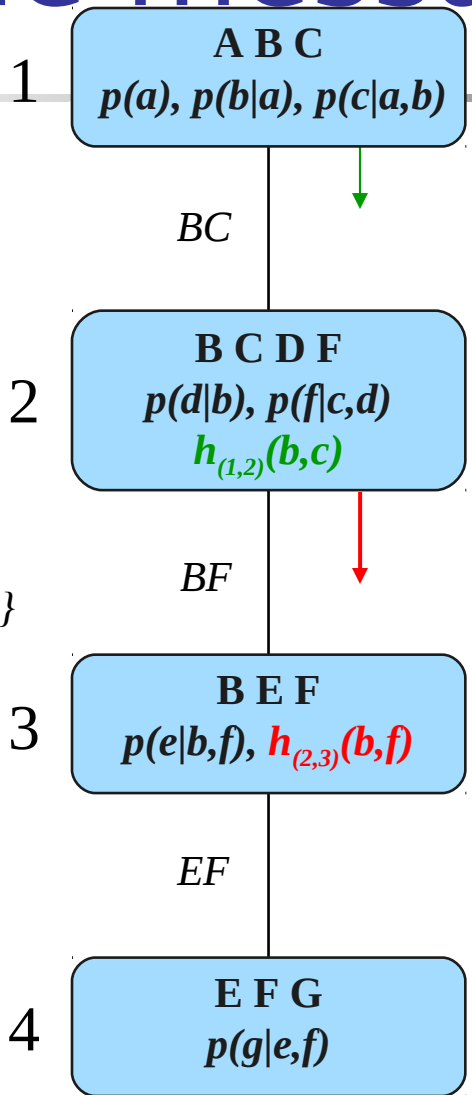
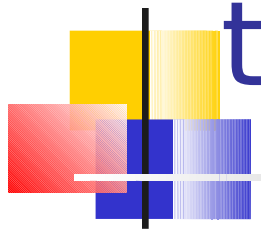
N = number of nodes in the tree decomposition

d = the maximum domain size of a variable

w^* = the induced width

sep = the separator size

Cluster Tree Elimination - the messages



$$h_{(1,2)}(b, c) = \sum_a p(a) \cdot p(b | a) \cdot p(c | a, b)$$

$$h_{(2,3)}(b, f) = \sum_{c,d} p(d | b) \cdot p(f | c, d) \cdot h_{(1,2)}(b, c)$$

sep(2,3)={B,F}
elim(2,3)={C,D}

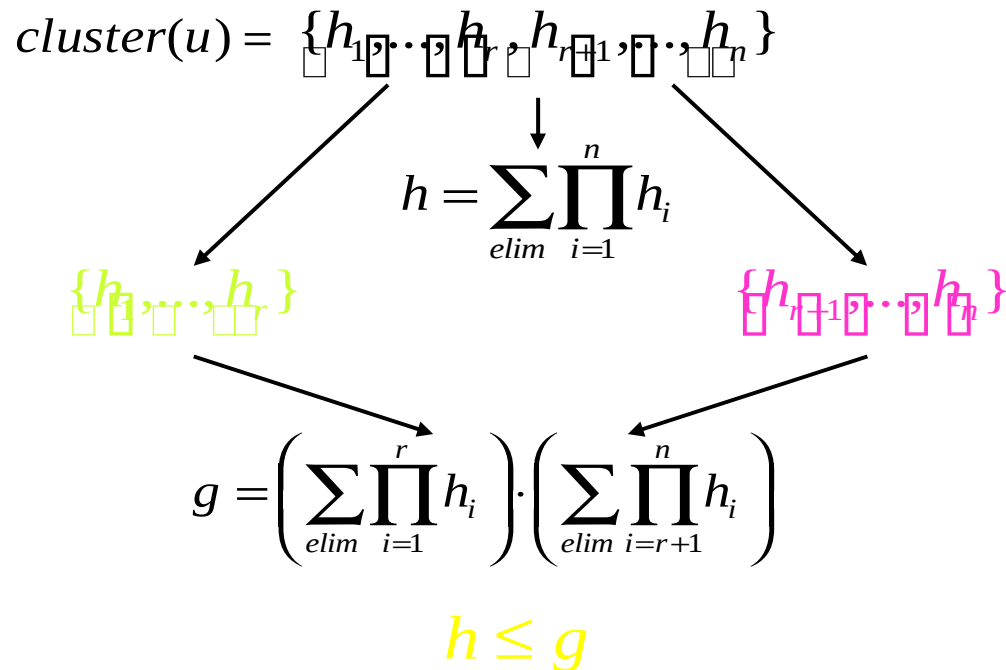


Mini-Clustering for belief updating

- Motivation:
 - Time and space complexity of Cluster Tree Elimination depend on the induced width w^* of the problem
 - When the induced width w^* is big, CTE algorithm becomes infeasible
- The basic idea:
 - Try to reduce the size of the cluster (the exponent); partition each cluster into mini-clusters with less variables
 - Accuracy parameter i = maximum number of variables in a mini-cluster
 - The idea was explored for variable elimination (Mini-Bucket)

Idea of Mini-Clustering

Split a cluster into mini-clusters => bound complexity



Exponential complexity decrease: $O(e^n) \rightarrow O(e^r) + O(e^{n-r})$

Mini-Clustering - MC



Mini-Clustering, $i=3$

Cluster Tree Elimination

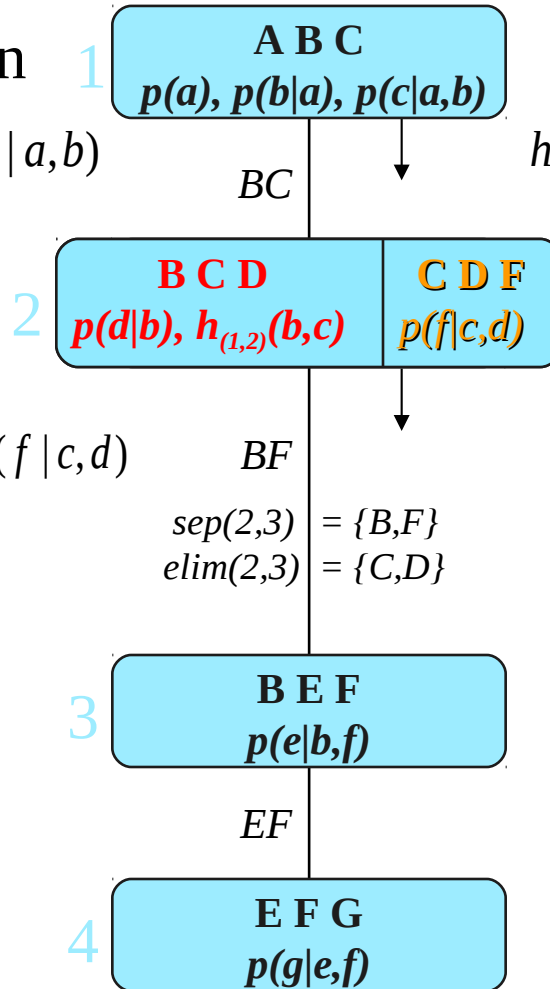
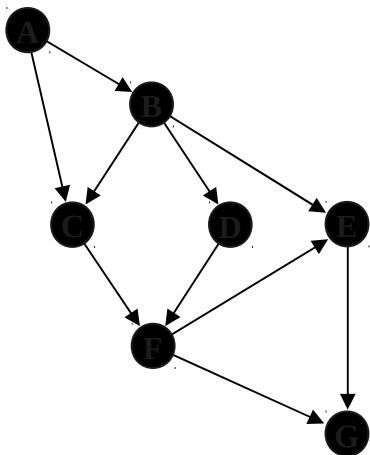
$$h_{(1,2)}(b,c) = \sum_a p(a) \cdot p(b|a) \cdot p(c|a,b)$$

$$h_{(1,2)}^1(b,c) = \sum_a p(a) \cdot p(b|a) \cdot p(c|a,b)$$

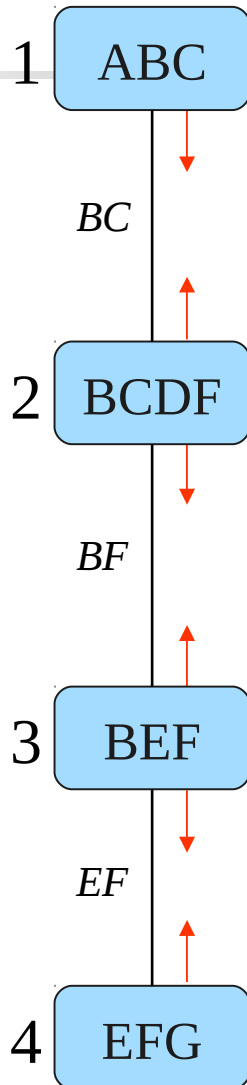
$$h_{(2,3)}(b,f) = \sum_{c,d} p(d|b) \cdot h_{(1,2)}^1(b,c) \cdot p(f|c,d)$$

$$h_{(2,3)}^1(b) = \sum_{c,d} p(d|b) \cdot h_{(1,2)}^1(b,c)$$

$$h_{(2,3)}^2(f) = \sum_{c,d} p(f|c,d)$$



Mini-Clustering - example



$$H_{(1,2)} \quad h_{(1,2)}^1(b, c) := \sum_a p(a) \cdot p(b | a) \cdot p(c | a, b)$$

$$h_{(2,1)}^1(b) := \sum_{d, f} p(d | b) \cdot h_{(3,2)}^1(b, f)$$

$$H_{(2,1)} \quad h_{(2,1)}^2(c) := \max_{d, f} p(f | c, d)$$

$$H_{(2,3)} \quad h_{(2,3)}^1(b) := \sum_{c, d} p(d | b) \cdot h_{(1,2)}^1(b, c)$$

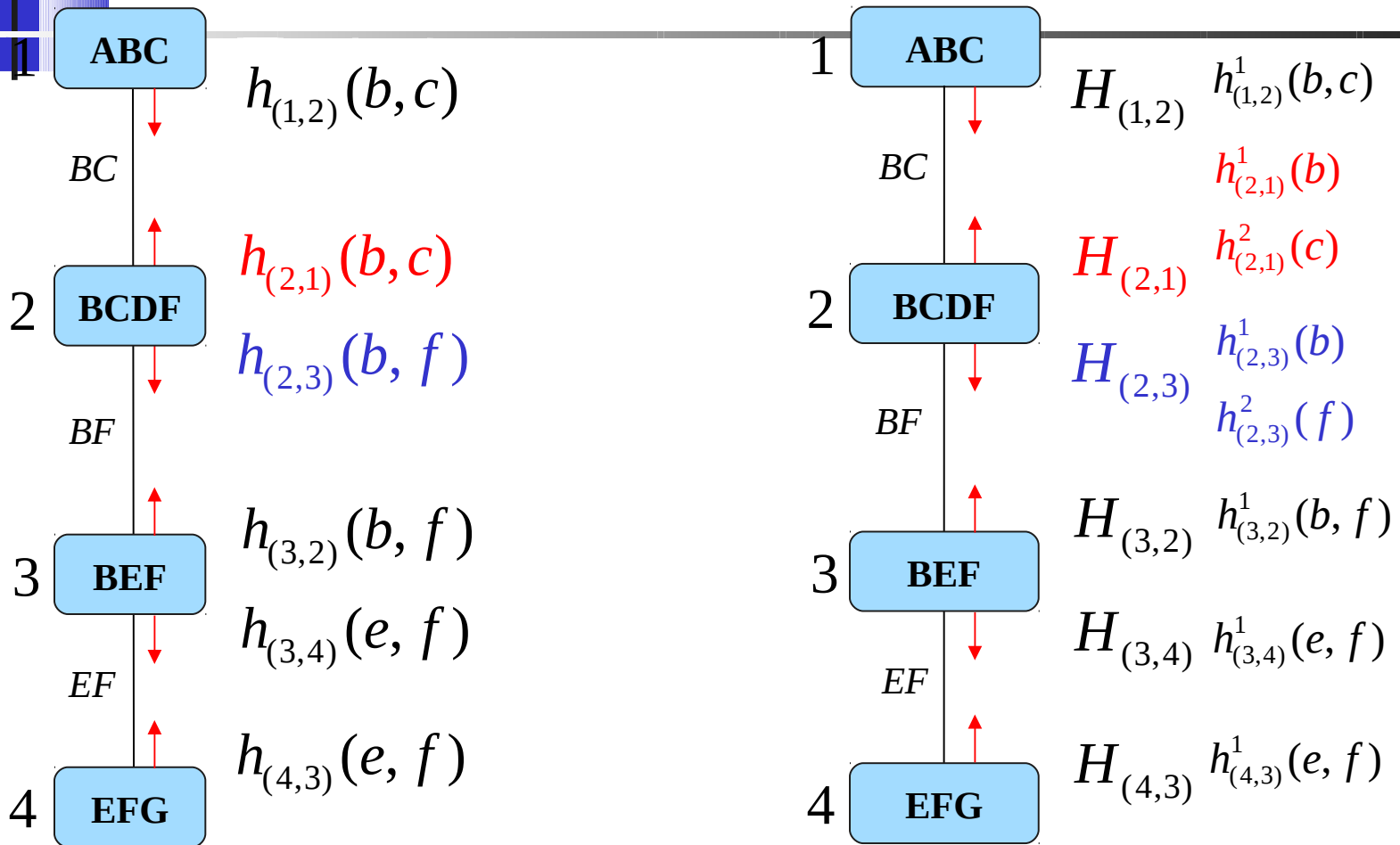
$$h_{(2,3)}^2(f) := \max_{c, d} p(f | c, d)$$

$$H_{(3,2)} \quad h_{(3,2)}^1(b, f) := \sum_e p(e | b, f) \cdot h_{(4,3)}^1(e, f)$$

$$H_{(3,4)} \quad h_{(3,4)}^1(e, f) := \sum_b p(e | b, f) \cdot h_{(2,3)}^1(b) \cdot h_{(2,3)}^2(f)$$

$$H_{(4,3)} \quad h_{(4,3)}^1(e, f) := p(G = g_e | e, f)$$

Cluster Tree Elimination vs. Mini-Clustering



Semantic of node duplication for mini-clustering

- We can have a different duplication of nodes going up and down. Example: going down.

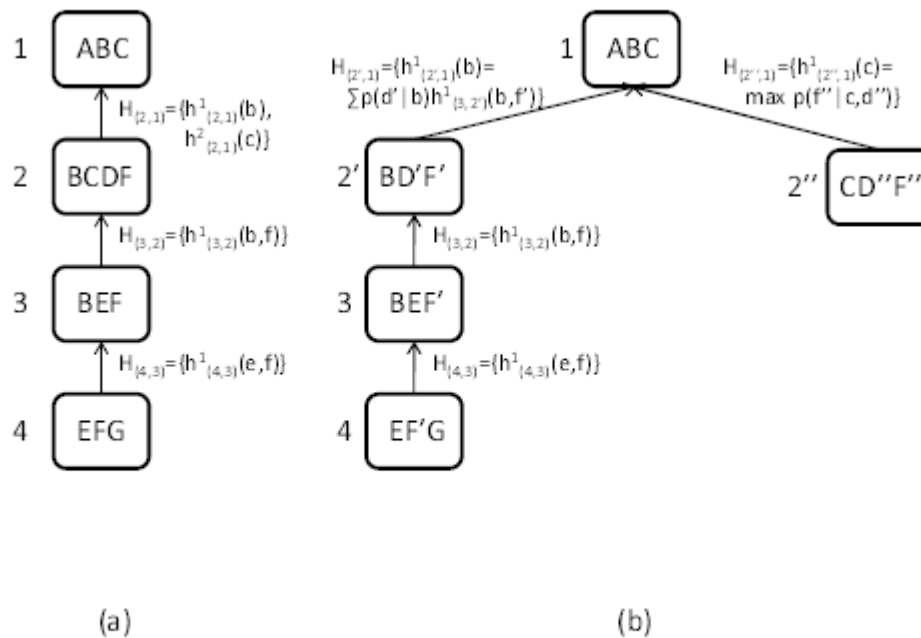
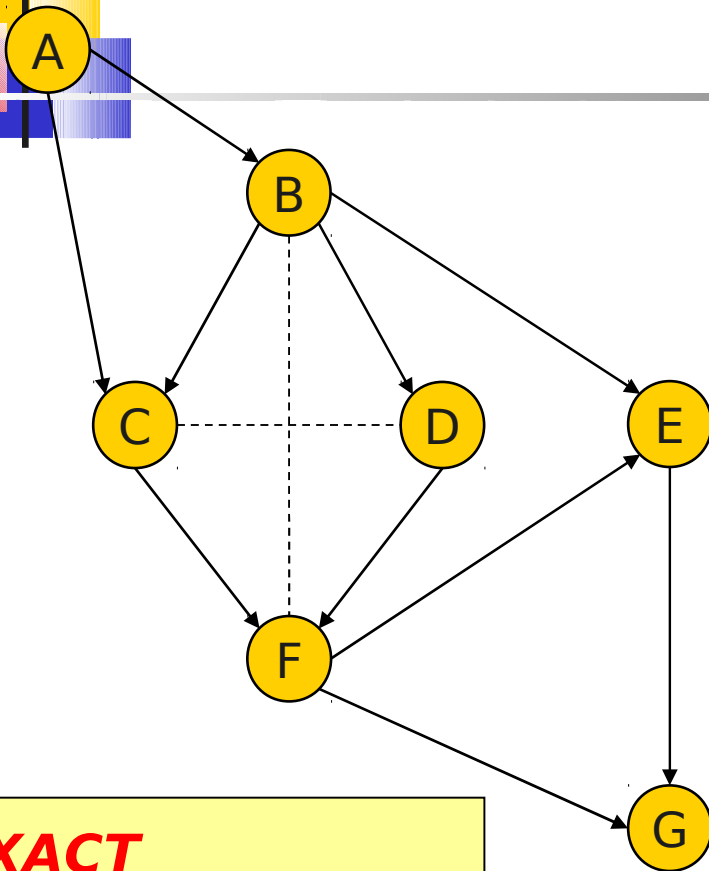
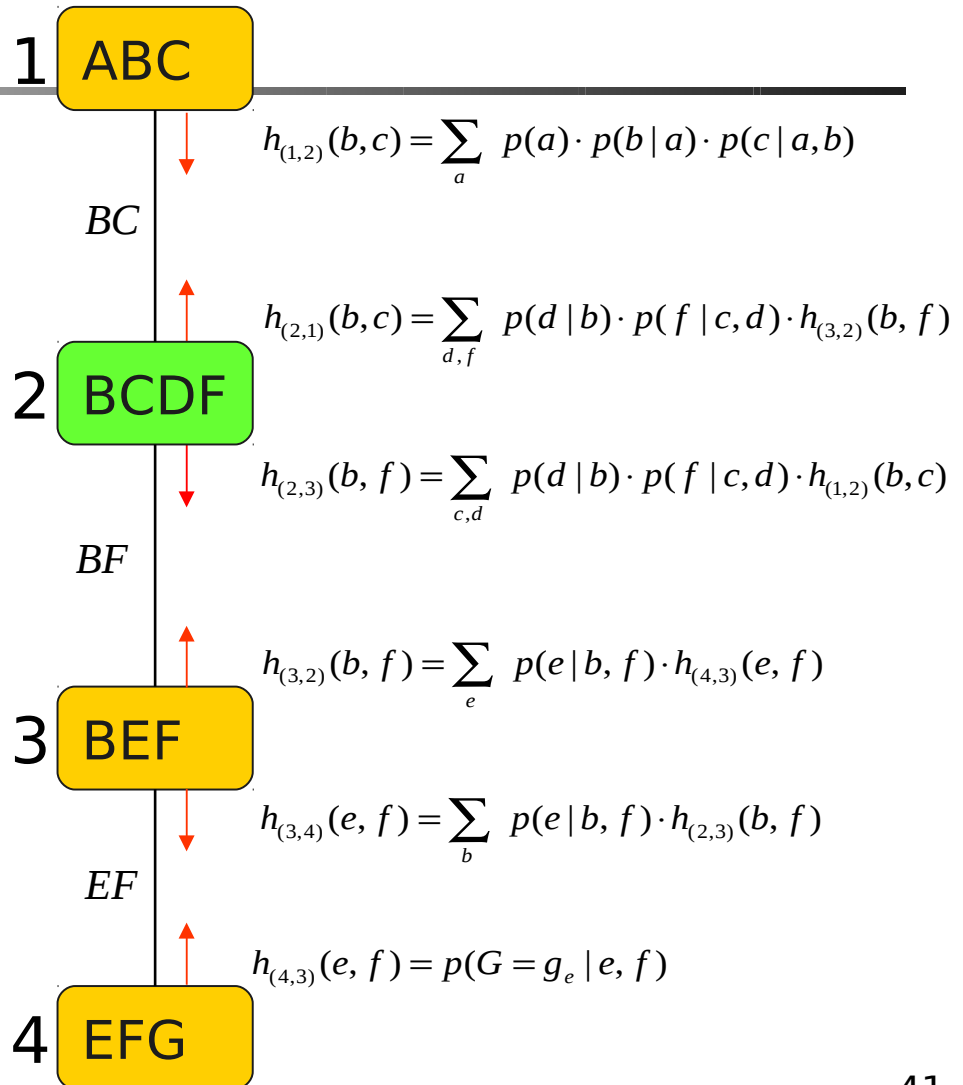


Figure 1.14: Node duplication semantics of MC: (a) trace of MC-BU(3); (b) trace of CTE-BU.

Join-Tree Clustering



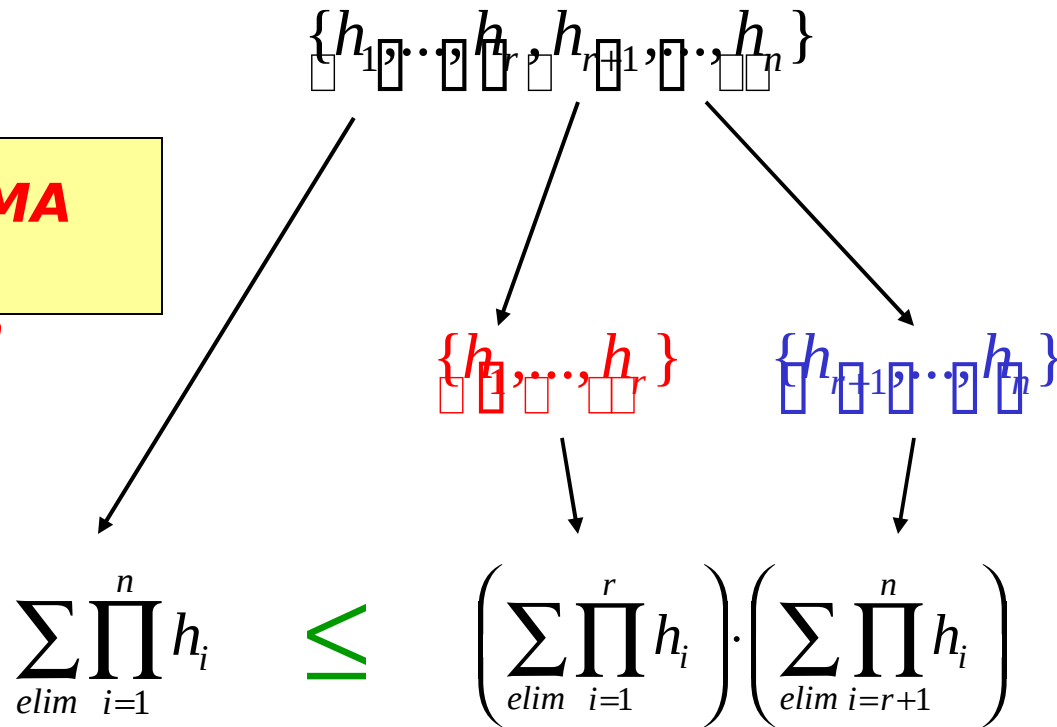
EXACT
algorithm
Time and space:
 $\exp(\text{cluster size}) =$
 $\exp(\text{treewidth})$



Mini-Clustering

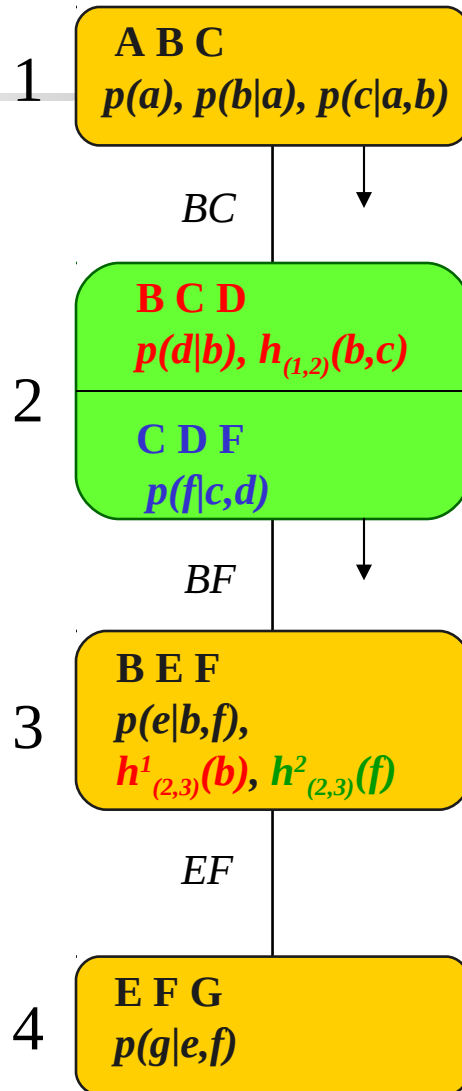
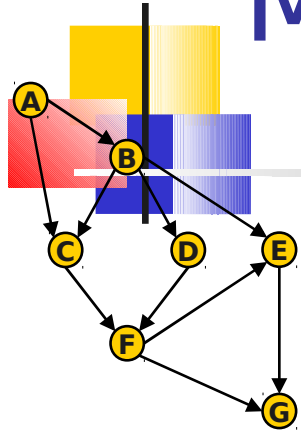
Split a cluster into mini-clusters => bound complexity

APPROXIMATE
algorithm



Exponential complexity decrease $O(e^n) \rightarrow O(e^{\text{var}(r)}) + O(e^{\text{var}(n-r)})$

Mini-Clustering, i-bound=3



$$h_{(1,2)}^1(b,c) = \sum_a p(a) \cdot p(b|a) \cdot p(c|a,b)$$

$$h_{(2,3)}^1(b) = \sum_{c,d} p(d|b) \cdot h_{(1,2)}^1(b,c)$$

$$h_{(2,3)}^2(f) = \max_{c,d} p(f|c,d)$$

APPROXIMATE
algorithm
Time and space:
 $\exp(i\text{-bound})$

↓

Number of variables in a
mini-cluster



Mini-Clustering

- **Correctness and completeness:** Algorithm $MC(i)$ computes a bound (or an approximation) on the joint probability $P(X_i, e)$ of each variable and each of its values.
- **Time & space complexity:** $O(n \times hw^* \times d^i)$

where $hw^* = \max_u | \{f \mid f \cap \chi(u) \neq \emptyset\} |$

Lower bounds and mean approximations

We can replace *max* operator by

- *min* \Rightarrow lower bound on the joint
- *mean* \Rightarrow approximation of the joint



Normalization

- MC can compute an (upper) bound $\bar{P}(X_i, e)$ on the joint $P(X_i, e)$
- Deriving a bound on the conditional $P(X_i|e)$ is not easy when the exact $P(e)$ is not available
- If a lower bound $\underline{P}(e)$ would be available, we could use:
$$\frac{P(X_i, e)}{\underline{P}(e)}$$
as an upper bound on the posterior
- In our experiments we normalized the results and regarded them as approximations of the posterior $P(X_i|e)$
$$P(X_i, e) / \underline{P}(e)$$

Experimental results

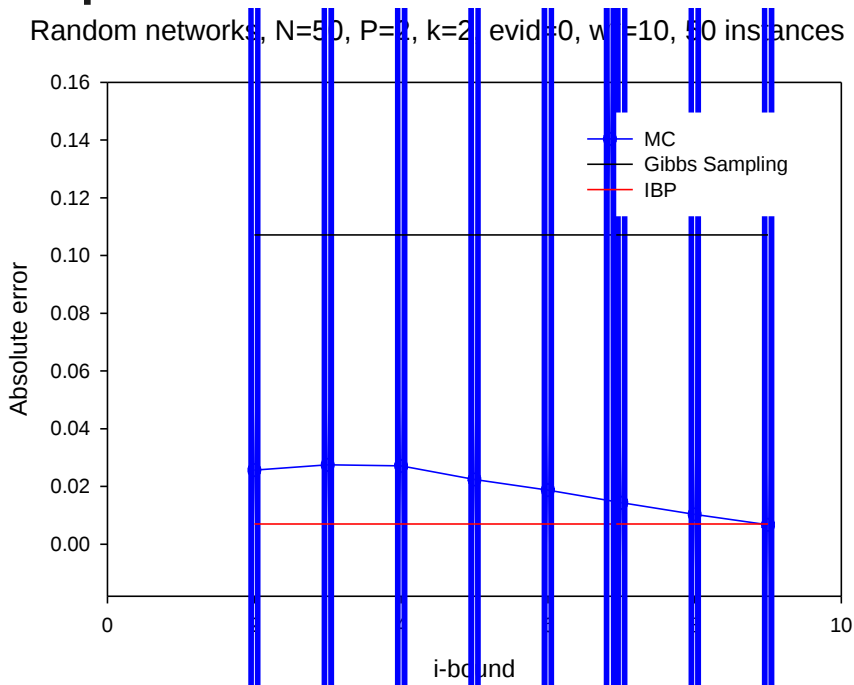


- Algorithms:
 - Exact
 - IBP
 - Gibbs sampling (GS)
 - MC with normalization (approximate)

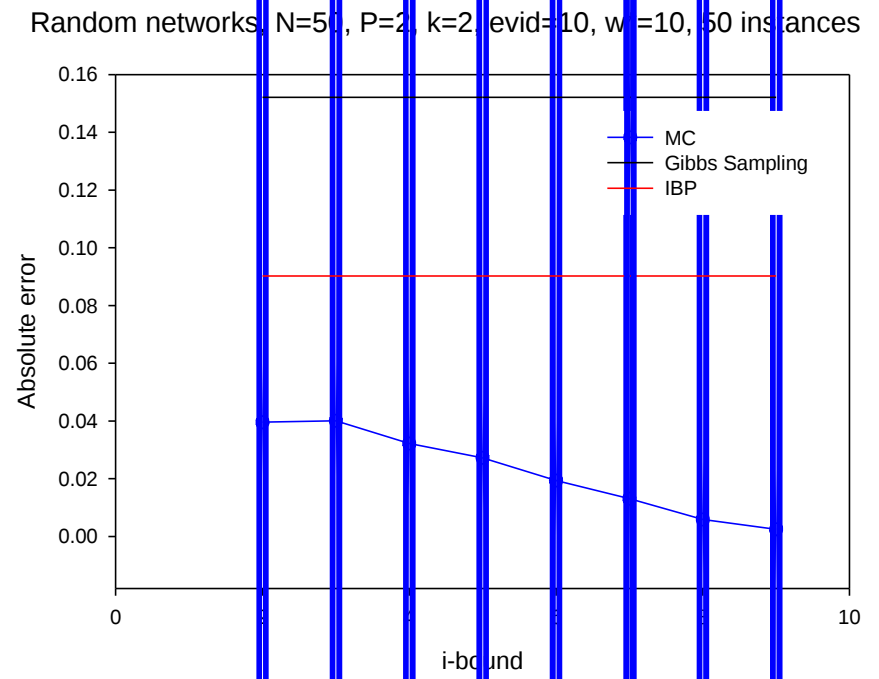
- Networks (all variables are binary):
 - Coding networks
 - CPCS 54, 360, 422
 - Grid networks (MxM)
 - Random noisy-OR networks
 - Random networks

- Measures:
 - Normalized Hamming Distance (NHD)
 - BER (Bit Error Rate)
 - Absolute error
 - Relative error
 - Time

Random networks - Absolute error

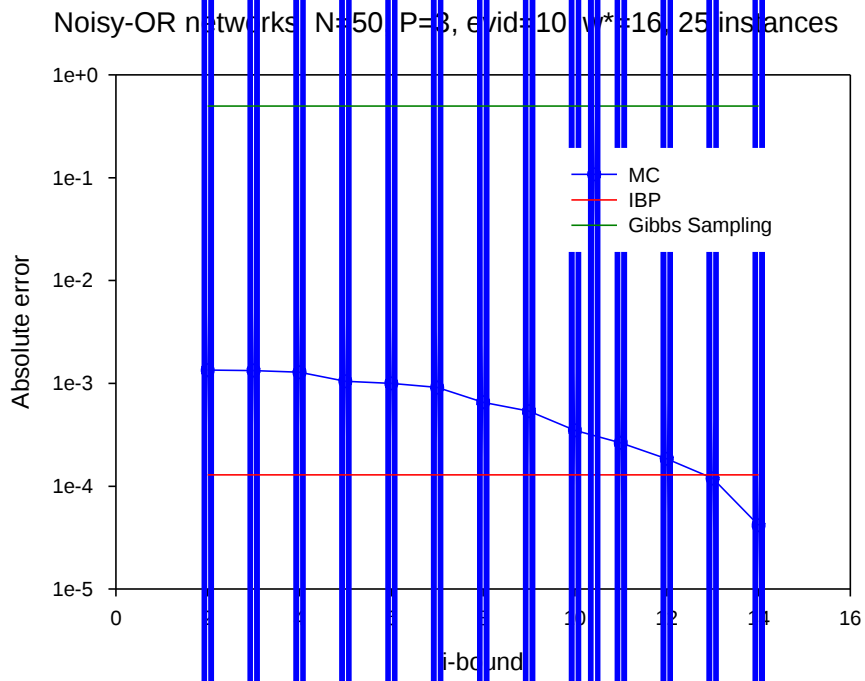


evidence=0

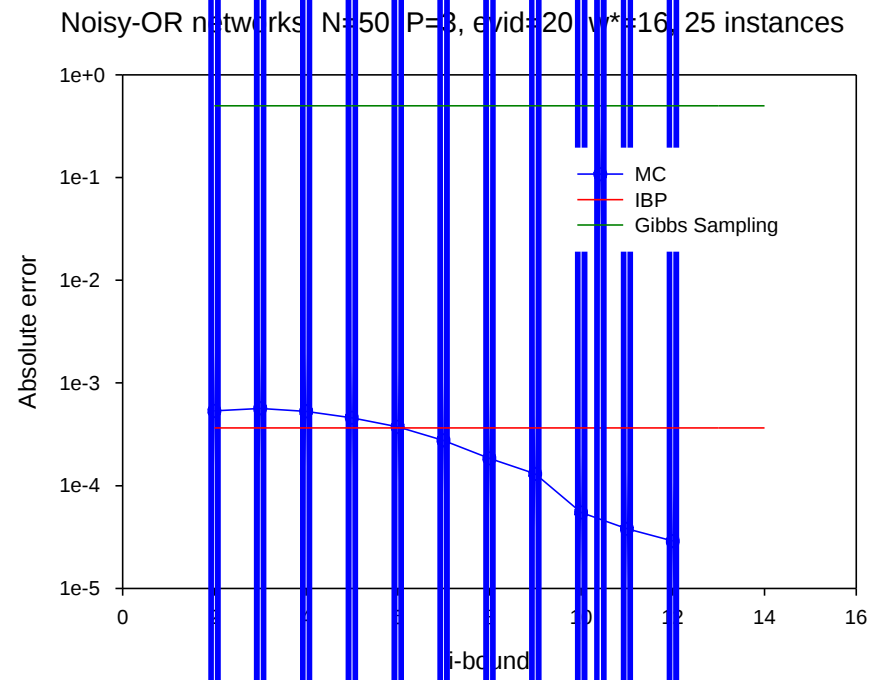


evidence=10

Noisy-OR networks - Absolute error

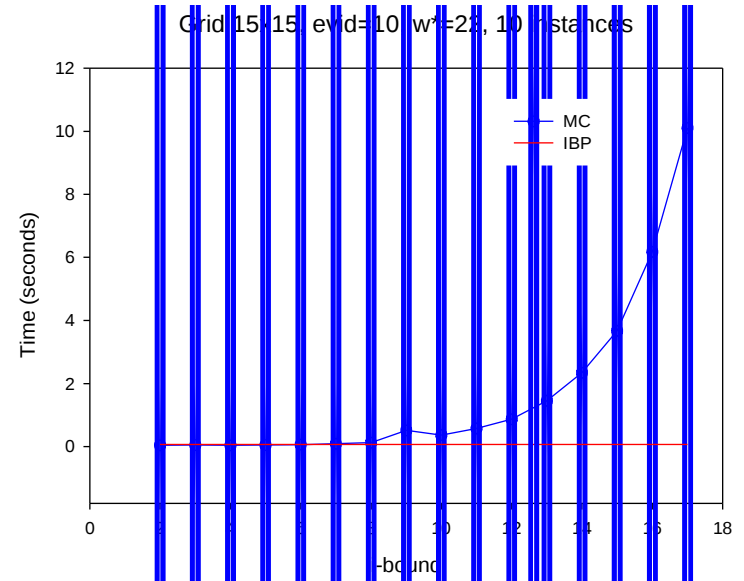
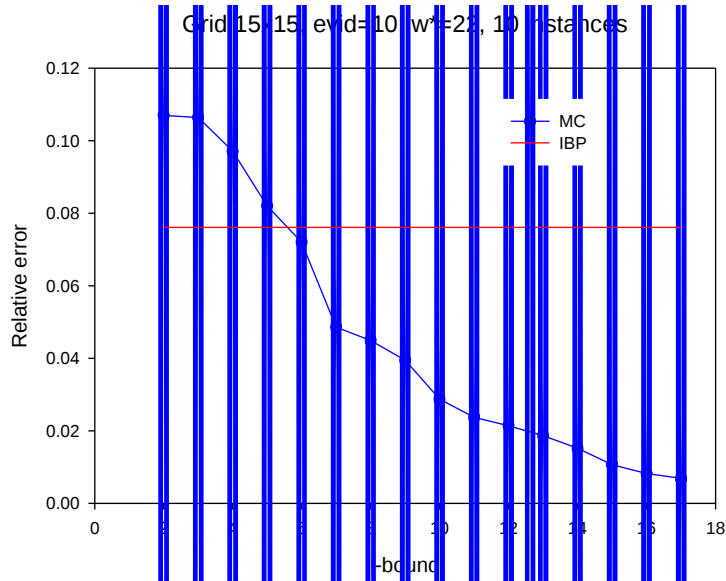
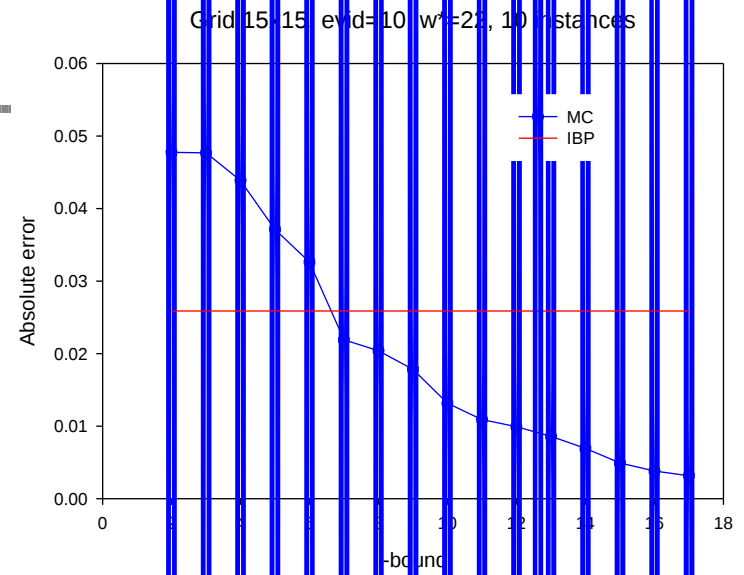
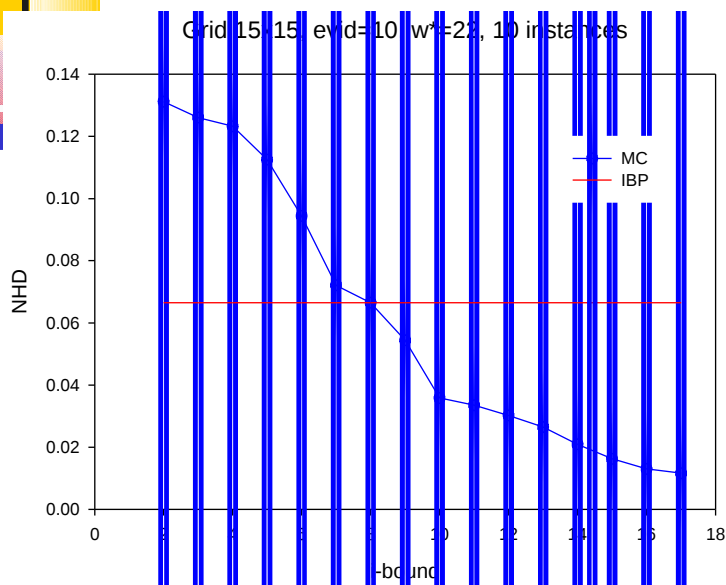
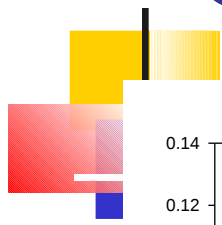


evidence=10

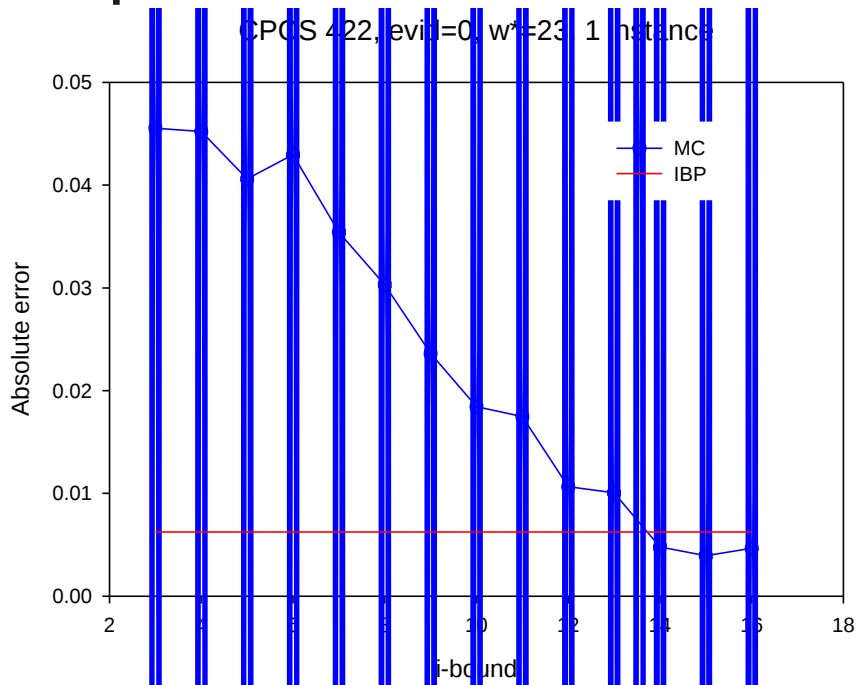


evidence=20

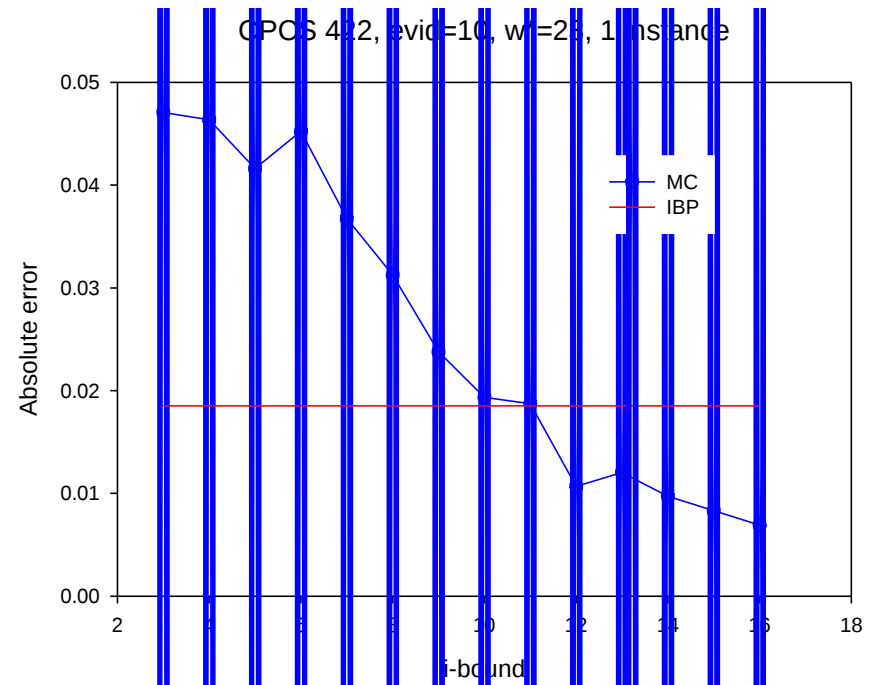
Grid 15x15 - 10 evidence



CPCS422 - Absolute error

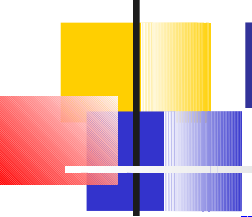


evidence=0

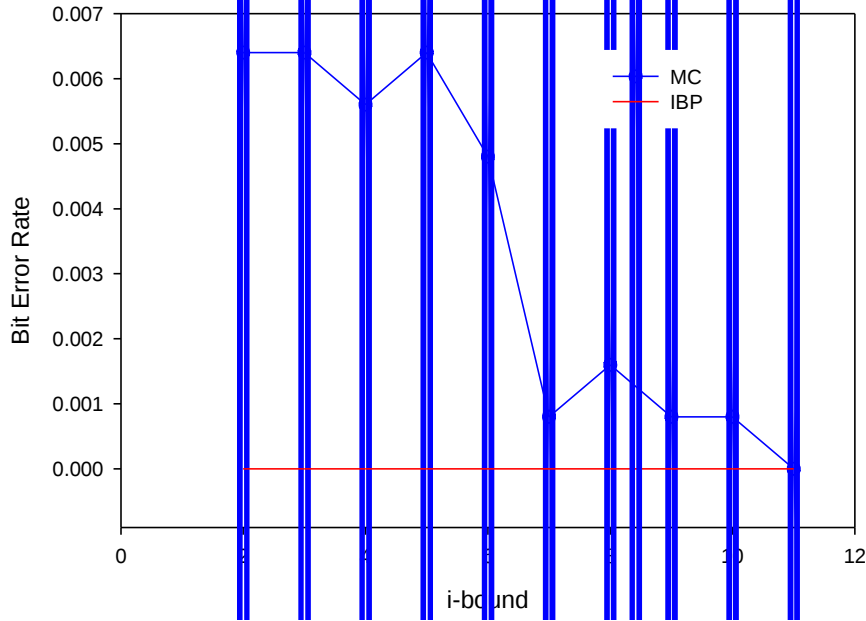


evidence=10

Coding networks - Bit Error Rate

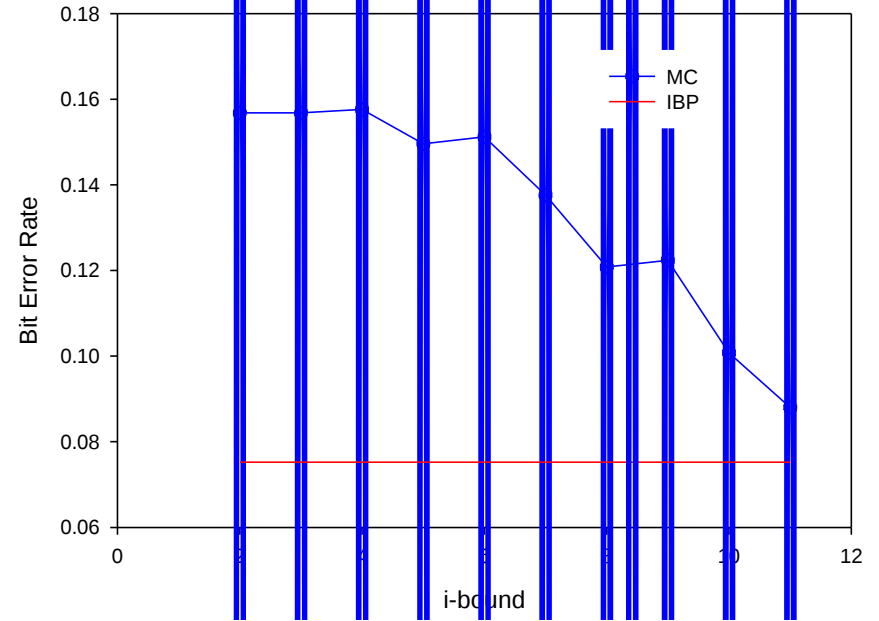


Coding networks, $N=100$, $P=4$, $\sigma=0.22$, $v^*=12$, 50 instances



$\sigma=0.22$

Coding networks, $N=100$, $P=4$, $\sigma=0.51$, $v^*=12$, 50 instances



$\sigma=0.51$



Mini-Clustering summary

- MC extends the partition based approximation from mini-buckets to general tree decompositions for the problem of belief updating
- Empirical evaluation demonstrates its effectiveness and superiority (for certain types of problems, with respect to the measures considered) relative to other existing algorithms



Heuristic for partitioning

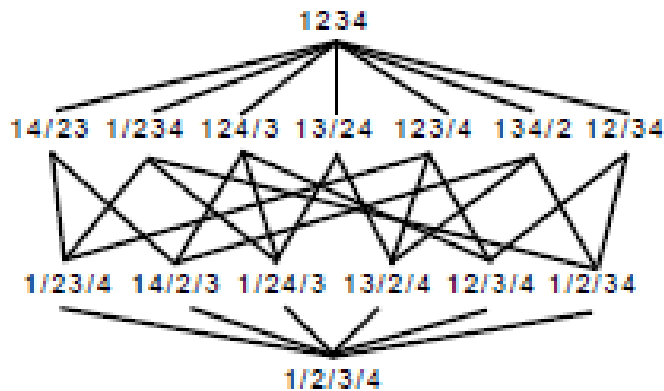
Scope-based Partitioning Heuristic. The *scope-based* partition heuristic (SCP) aims at minimizing the number of mini-buckets in the partition by including in each minibucket as many functions as possible as long as the i bound is satisfied. First, single function mini-buckets are decreasingly ordered according to their arity. Then, each minibucket is absorbed into the left-most mini-bucket with whom it can be merged.

The time and space complexity of $\text{Partition}(B, i)$, where B is the partitioned bucket, using the SCP heuristic is $O(|B| \log(|B|) + |B|^2)$ and $O(\exp(i))$, respectively.

The scope-based heuristic is quite fast, its shortcoming is that it does not consider the actual information in the functions.

Content-based heuristics

(Rollon and Dechter 2010)



Partitioning lattice of bucket $\{f_1, f_2, f_3, f_4\}$.

- *Log relative error:*

$$RE(f, h) = \sum_t (\log(f(t)) - \log(h(t)))$$

- *Max log relative error:*

$$MRE(f, h) = \max_t \{\log(f(t)) - \log(h(t))\}$$

Use greedy heuristic derived from a distance function to decide which functions go into a single mini-bucket



Iterative Join Graph Propagation

- Loopy Belief Propagation
 - Cyclic graphs
 - **Iterative**
 - Converges fast in practice (no guarantees though)
 - Very good approximations (e.g., turbo decoding, LDPC codes, SAT - survey propagation)
- Mini-Clustering(i)
 - Tree decompositions
 - Only two sets of messages (inward, outward)
 - **Anytime** behavior - can improve with more time by increasing the i-bound
- We want to combine:
 - Iterative virtues of Loopy BP
 - Anytime behavior of Mini-Clustering(i)



IJGP - The basic idea

- Apply Cluster Tree Elimination to any *join-graph*
- We commit to graphs that are *I-maps*
- Avoid cycles as long as I-mapness is not violated
- Result: use *minimal arc-labeled* join-graphs

Minimal arc-labeled join-graph

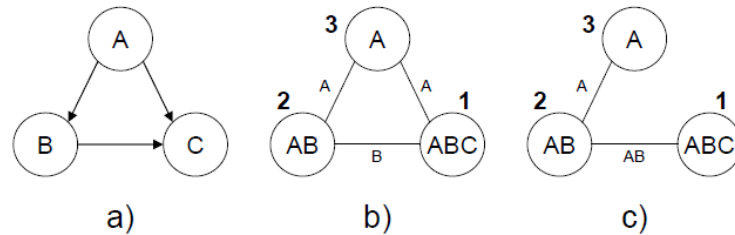


Figure 1.17: a) A belief network; b) A dual join-graph with singleton labels; c) A dual join-graph which is a join-tree

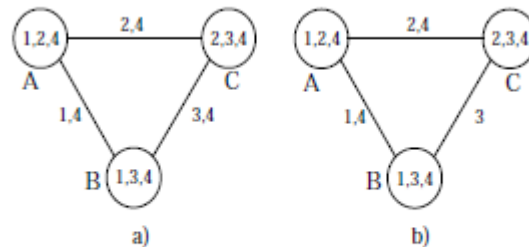
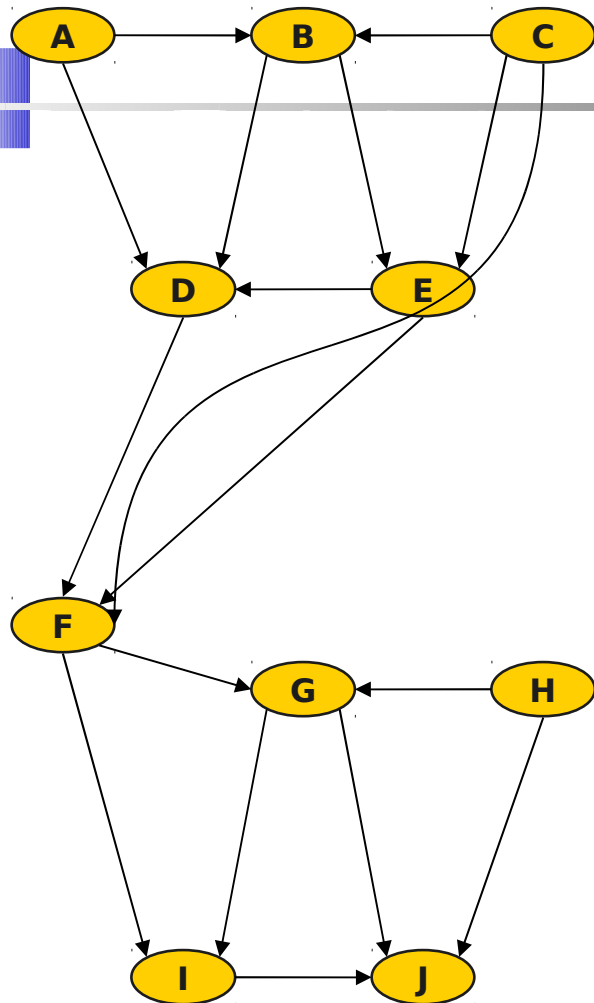
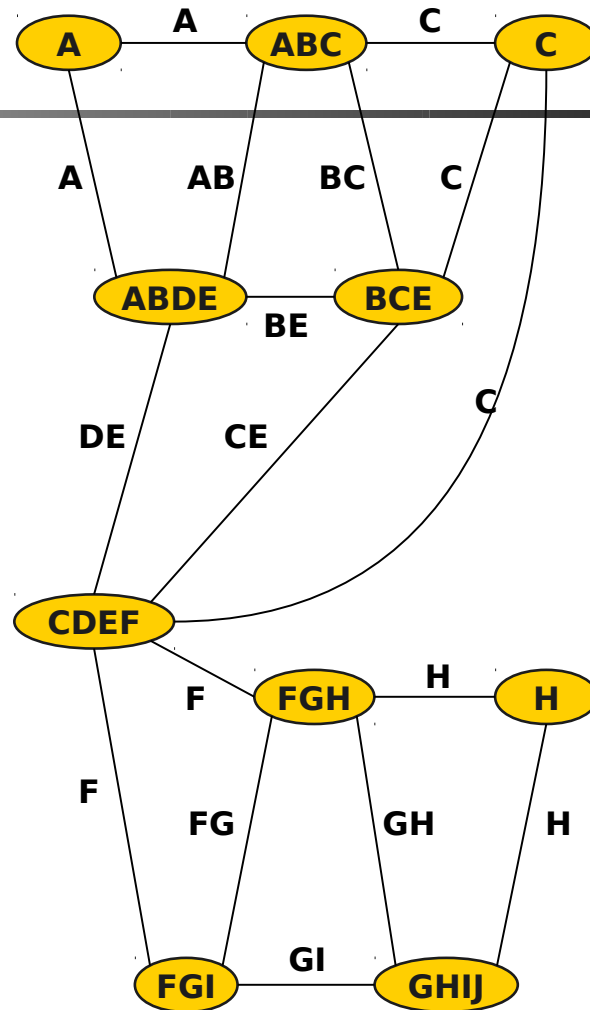


Figure 1.15: An arc-labeled decomposition

IJGP - Example

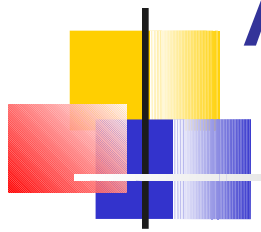


Belief network

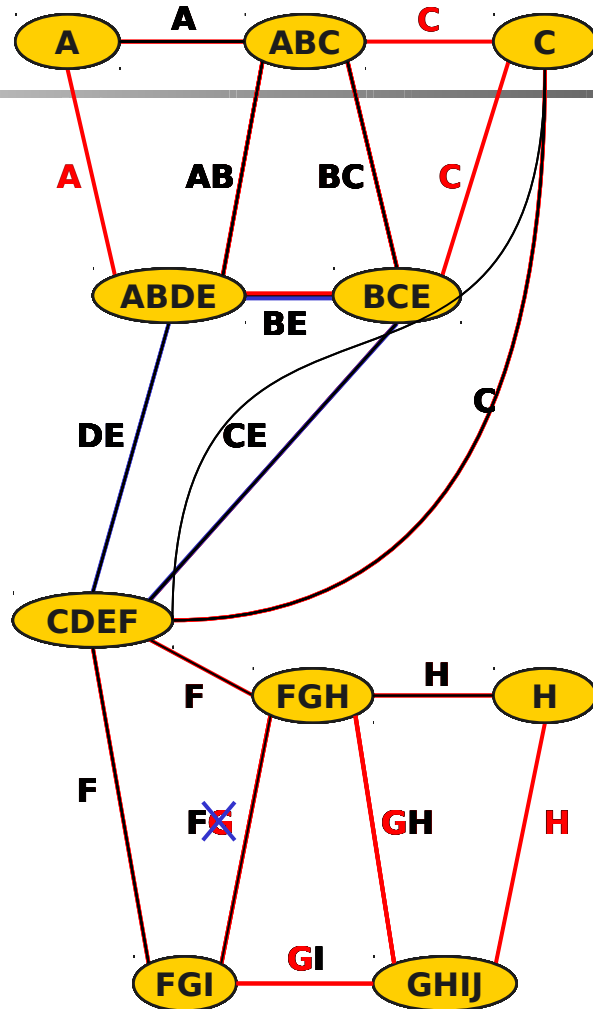


Loopy BP graph

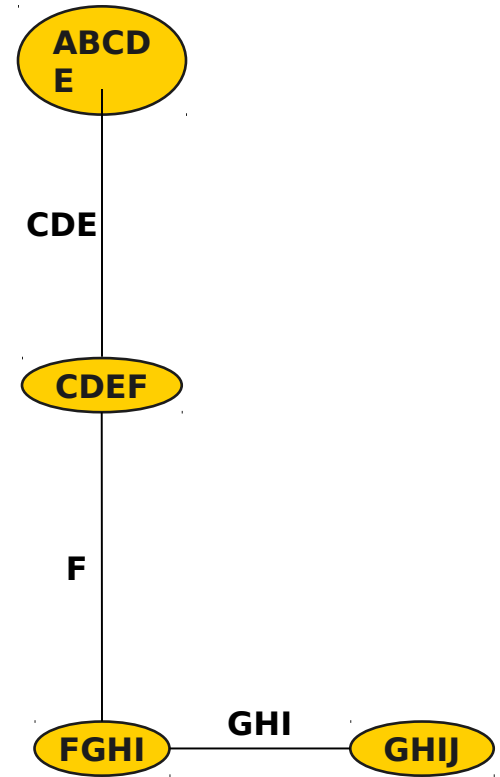
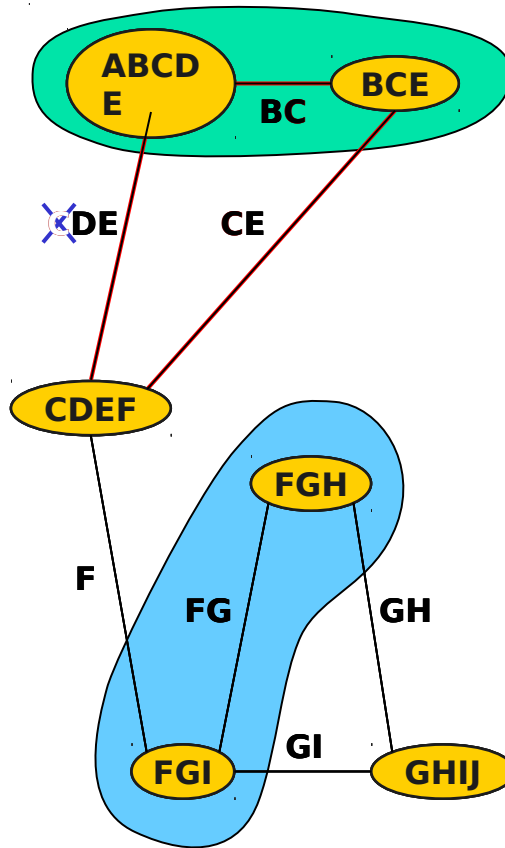
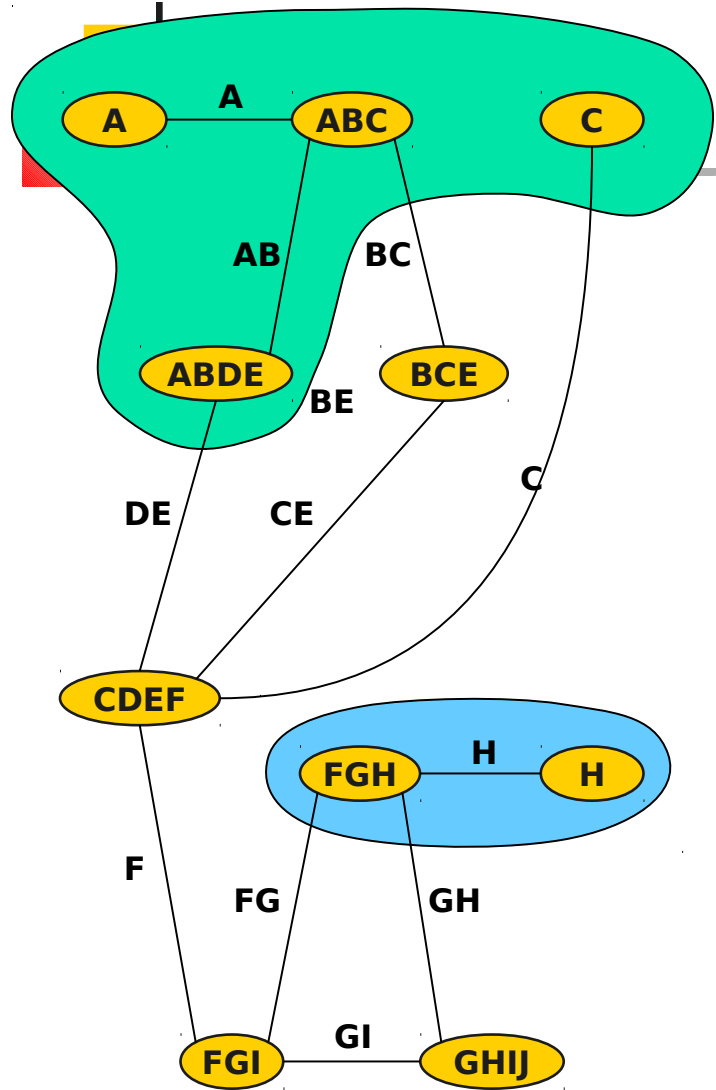
Arc-Minimal Join-Graph



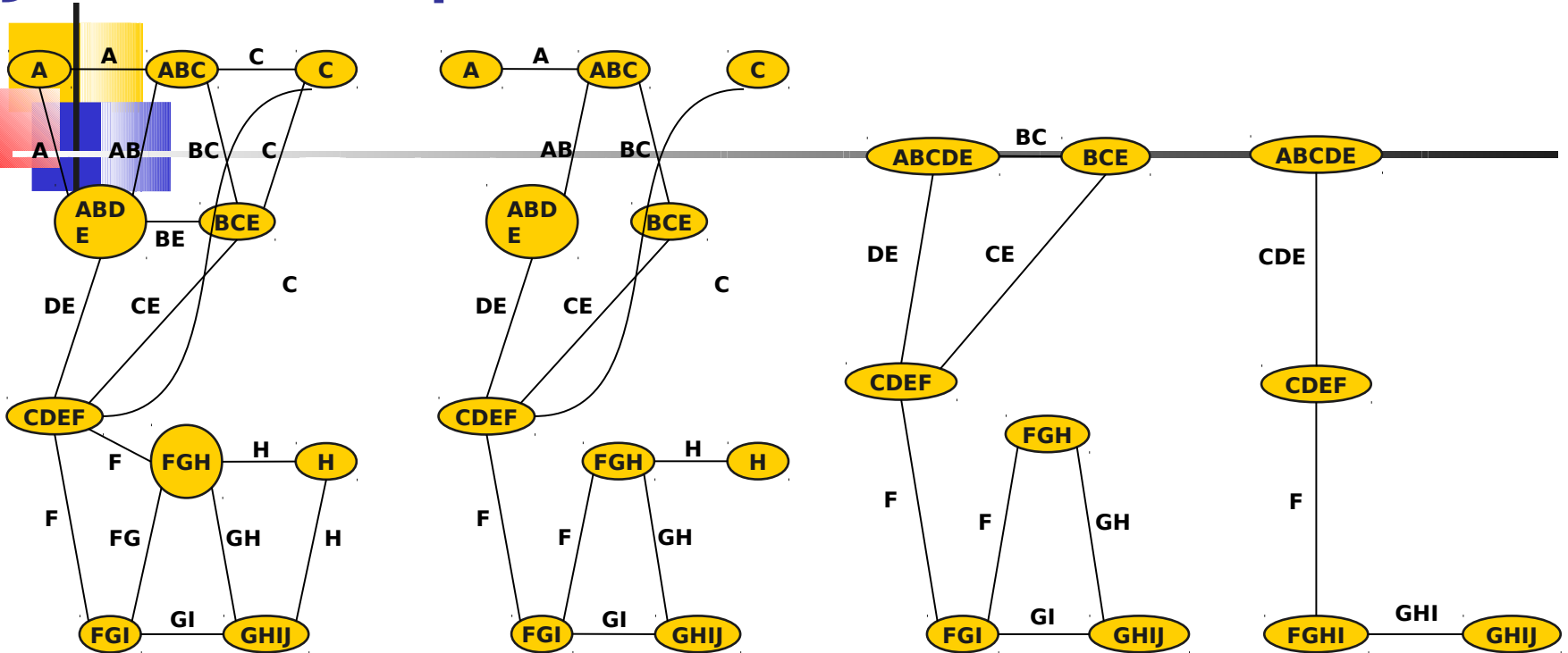
Arcs labeled with any single variable should form a **TREE**



Collapsing Clusters



Join-Graphs

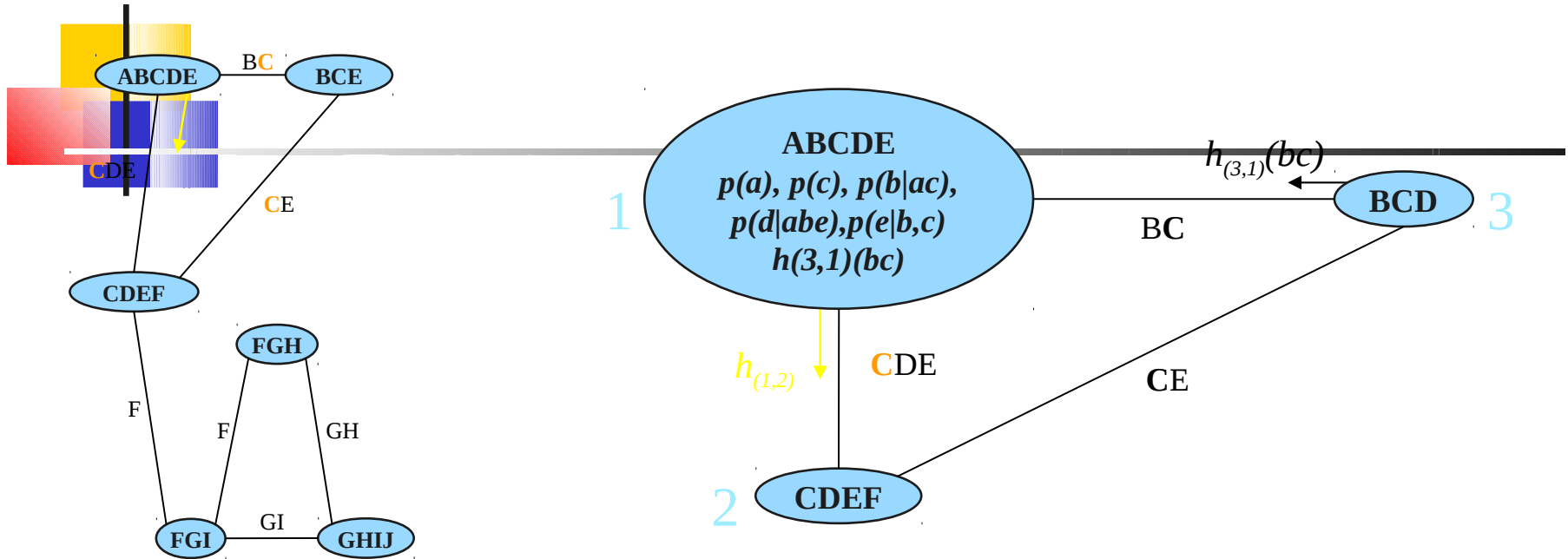


more
accuracy



less
complexity

Message propagation



Minimal arc-labeled:
 $sep(1,2) = \{D, E\}$
 $elim(1,2) = \{A, B, C\}$

$$h_{(1,2)}(de) = \sum_{a,b,c} p(a) p(c) p(b | ac) p(d | abe) p(e | bc) h_{(3,1)}(bc)$$

Non-minimal arc-labeled:
 $sep(1,2) = \{C, D, E\}$
 $elim(1,2) = \{A, B\}$

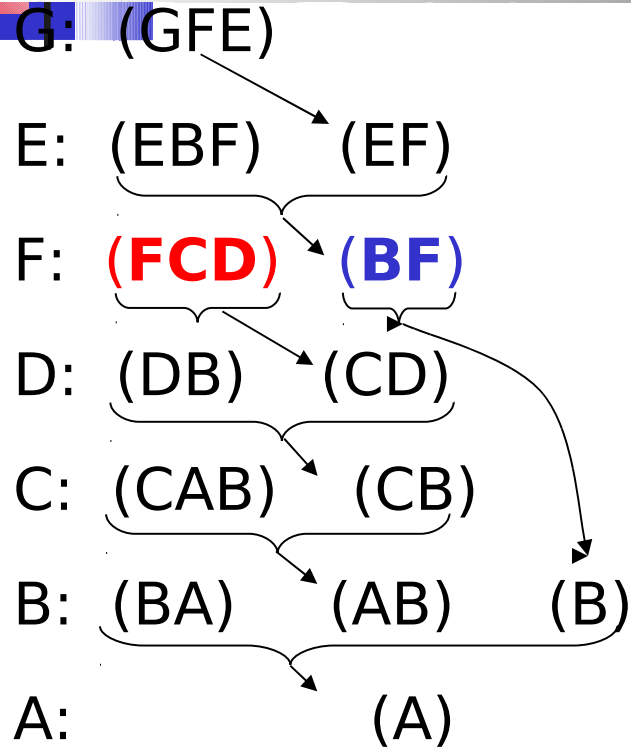
$$h_{(1,2)}(cde) = \sum_{a,b} p(a) p(c) p(b | ac) p(d | abe) p(e | bc) h_{(3,1)}(bc)$$



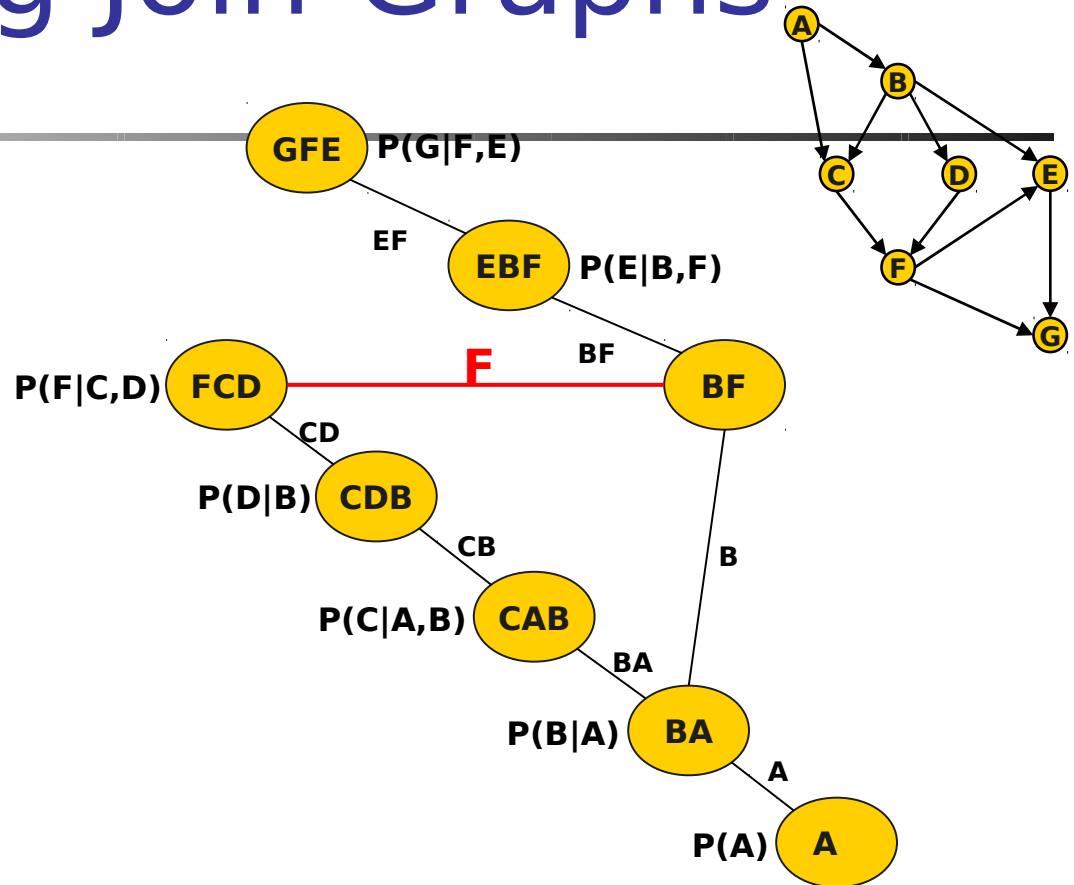
Bounded decompositions

- We want arc-labeled decompositions such that:
 - the cluster size (internal width) is bounded by i (the accuracy parameter)
 - the width of the decomposition as a graph (external width) is as small as possible
- Possible approaches to build decompositions:
 - partition-based algorithms - inspired by the mini-bucket decomposition
 - grouping-based algorithms

Constructing Join-Graphs



a) schematic mini-bucket(i), $i=3$ decomposition



b) arc-labeled join-graph



IJGP properties

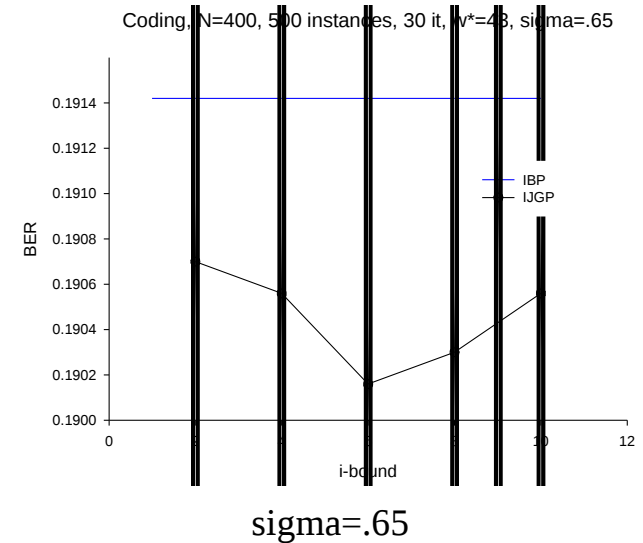
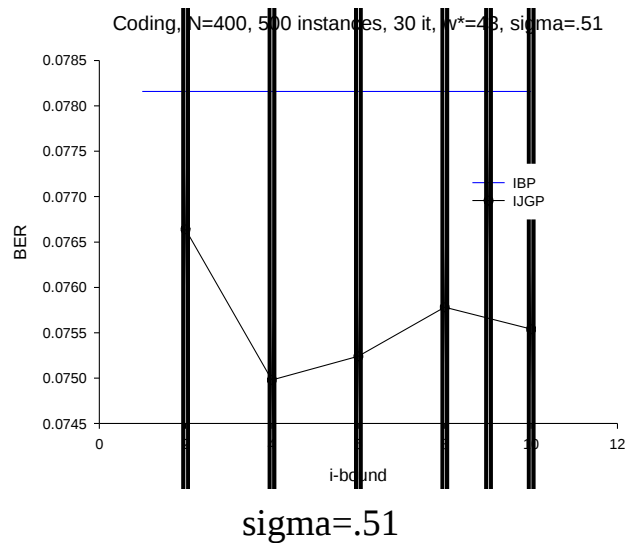
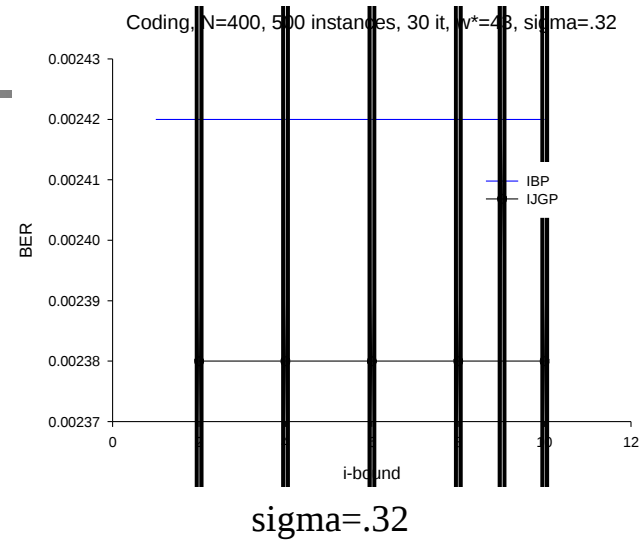
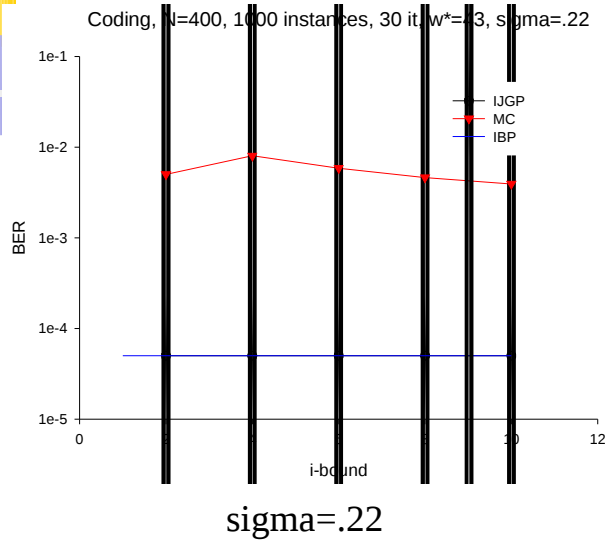
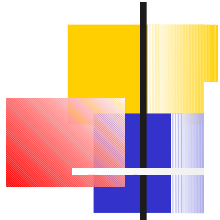
- IJGP(i) applies BP to min arc-labeled join-graph, whose cluster size is bounded by i
- On join-trees IJGP finds exact beliefs
- IJGP is a Generalized Belief Propagation algorithm (Yedidia, Freeman, Weiss 2001)
- Complexity of one iteration:
 - time: $O(deg \cdot (n+N) \cdot d^{i+1})$
 - space: $O(N \cdot d^\theta)$



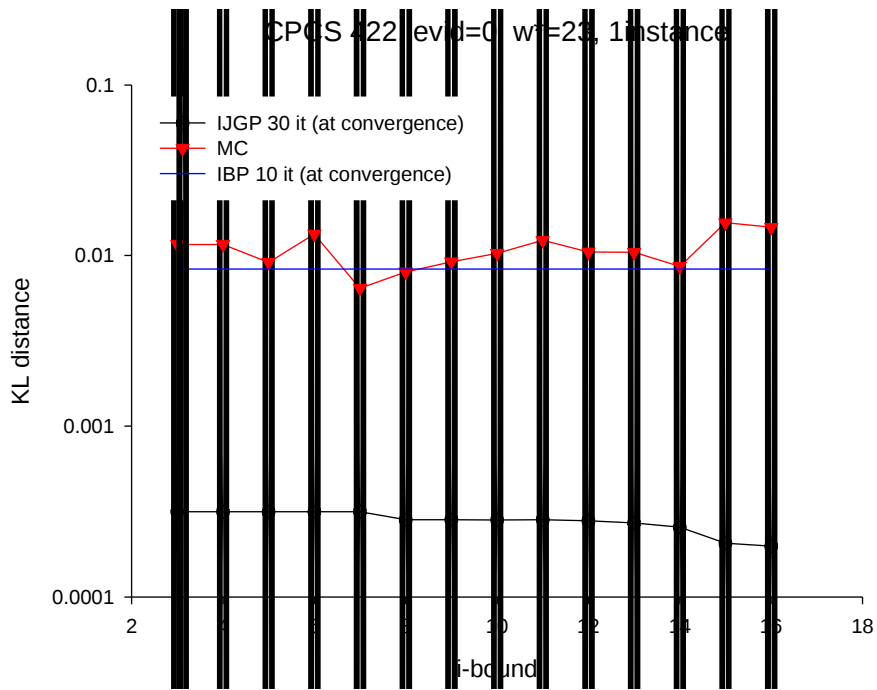
Empirical evaluation

- Algorithms:
 - Exact
 - IBP
 - MC
 - IJGP
- Measures:
 - Absolute error
 - Relative error
 - Kulbach-Leibler (KL) distance
 - Bit Error Rate
 - Time
- Networks (all variables are binary):
 - Random networks
 - Grid networks (MxM)
 - CPCS 54, 360, 422
 - Coding networks

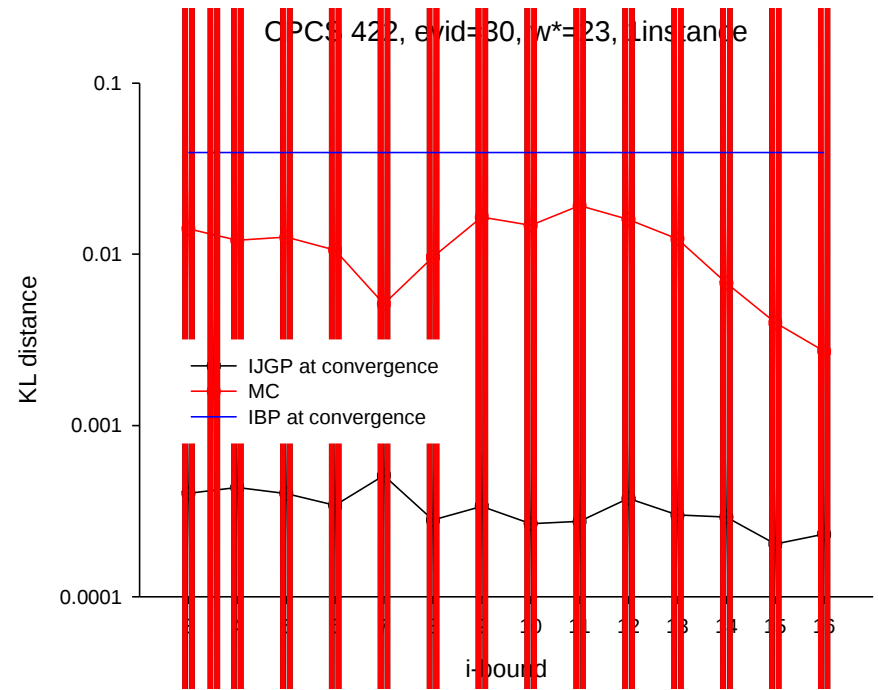
Coding networks - BER



CPCS 422 - KL Distance



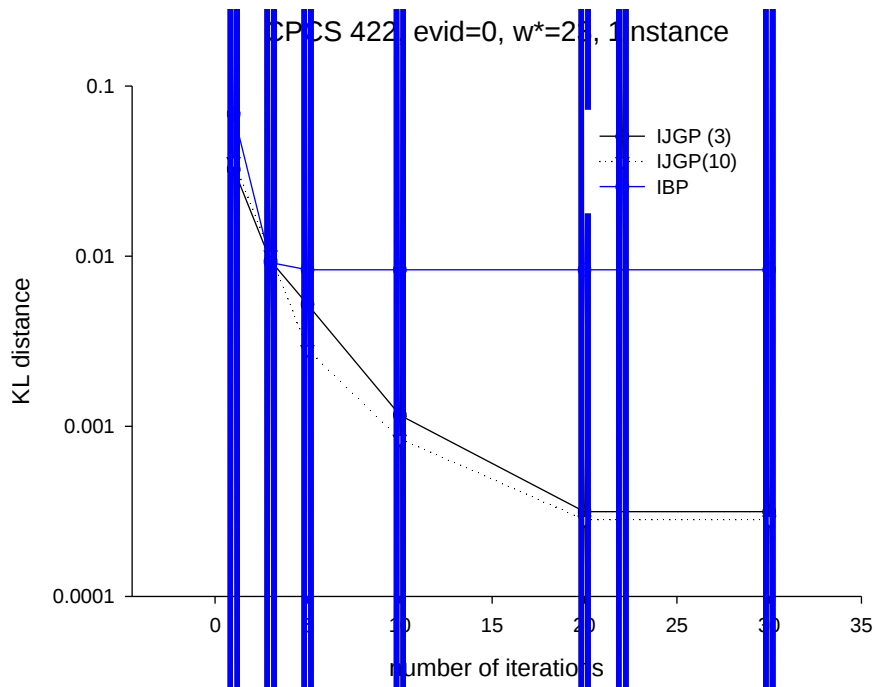
evidence=0



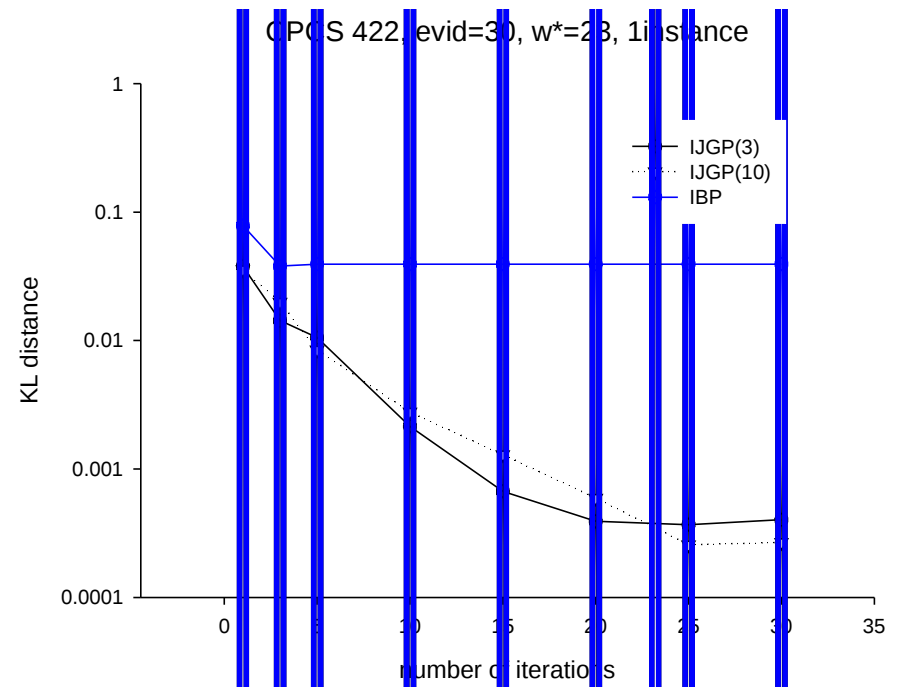
evidence=30

CPCS 422 - KL vs.

Iterations

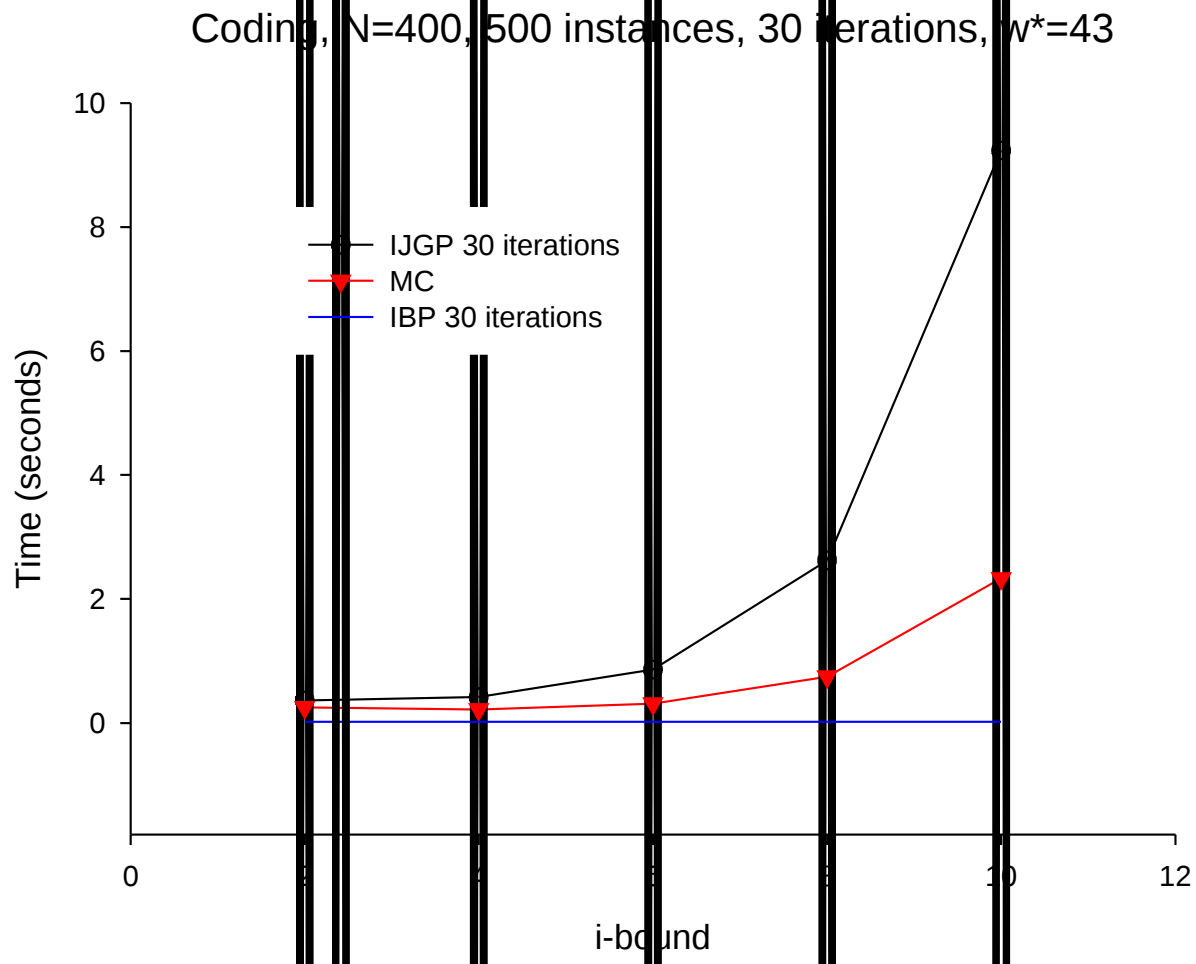


evidence=0



evidence=30

Coding networks - Time





More On the Power of Belief Propagation

- BP as local minima of KL distance
- BP's power from constraint propagation perspective.



More On the Power of Belief Propagation

- BP as local minima of KL distance
- BP's power from constraint propagation perspective.

The Kullback-Leibler Divergence

The Kullback-Leibler divergence (KL-divergence)

$$\text{KL}(\text{Pr}'(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{e}), \text{Pr}(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{e})) = \sum_{\mathbf{x}} \text{Pr}'(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{e}) \log \frac{\text{Pr}'(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{e})}{\text{Pr}(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{e})}$$

- $\text{KL}(\text{Pr}'(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{e}), \text{Pr}(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{e}))$ is non-negative
- equal to zero if and only if $\text{Pr}'(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{e})$ and $\text{Pr}(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{e})$ are equivalent.

The Kullback-Leibler Divergence

KL-divergence is not a true distance measure in that it is not symmetric. In general:

$$\text{KL}(\text{Pr}'(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{e}), \text{Pr}(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{e})) \neq \text{KL}(\text{Pr}(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{e}), \text{Pr}'(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{e})).$$

- $\text{KL}(\text{Pr}'(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{e}), \text{Pr}(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{e}))$ weighting the KL-divergence by the approximate distribution Pr'
- We shall indeed focus on the KL-divergence weighted by the approximate distribution as it has some useful computational properties.

The Kullback-Leibler Divergence

Let $\Pr(\mathbf{X})$ be a distribution induced by a Bayesian network \mathcal{N} having families X_U

The KL-divergence between \Pr and another distribution \Pr' can be written as a sum of three components:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{KL}(\Pr'(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{e}), \Pr(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{e})) \\ = -\text{ENT}'(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{e}) - \sum_{X_U} \text{AVG}'(\log \lambda_e(X)\Theta_{X|U}) + \log \Pr(\mathbf{e}), \end{aligned}$$

where

- $\text{ENT}'(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{e}) = -\sum_{\mathbf{x}} \Pr'(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{e}) \log \Pr'(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{e})$ is the entropy of the conditioned approximate distribution $\Pr'(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{e})$.
- $\text{AVG}'(\log \lambda_e(X)\Theta_{X|U}) = \sum_{x_u} \Pr'(x_u|\mathbf{e}) \log \lambda_e(x)\theta_{x|u}$ is a set of expectations over the original network parameters weighted by the conditioned approximate distribution.

The Kullback-Leibler Divergence

A distribution $\Pr'(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{e})$ minimizes the KL-divergence $\text{KL}(\Pr'(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{e}), \Pr(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{e}))$ if it maximizes

$$\text{ENT}'(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{e}) + \sum_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{U}} \text{AVG}'(\log \lambda_{\mathbf{e}}(\mathbf{X})\Theta_{\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{U}})$$

Competing properties of $\Pr'(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{e})$ that minimize the KL-divergence:

- $\Pr'(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{e})$ should match the original distribution by giving more weight to more likely parameters $\lambda_{\mathbf{e}}(x)\theta_{x|\mathbf{u}}$ (i.e., maximize the expectations).
- $\Pr'(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{e})$ should not favor unnecessarily one network instantiation over another by being evenly distributed (i.e., maximize the entropy).

Optimizing the KL-Divergence

The approximations computed by IBP are based on assuming an approximate distribution $\Pr'(\mathbf{X})$ that factors as follows:

$$\Pr'(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{e}) = \prod_{\mathbf{x}\mathbf{u}} \frac{\Pr'(\mathbf{x}\mathbf{u}|\mathbf{e})}{\prod_{U \in \mathbf{u}} \Pr'(U|\mathbf{e})}$$

- This choice of $\Pr'(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{e})$ is expressive enough to describe distributions $\Pr(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{e})$ induced by polytree networks \mathcal{N}
- In the case where \mathcal{N} is not a polytree, then we are simply trying to fit $\Pr(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{e})$ into an approximation $\Pr'(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{e})$ as if it were generated by a polytree network.
- The entropy of distribution $\Pr'(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{e})$ can be expressed as:

$$\text{ENT}'(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{e}) = - \sum_{\mathbf{x}\mathbf{u}} \sum_{x\mathbf{u}} \Pr'(x\mathbf{u}|\mathbf{e}) \log \frac{\Pr'(x\mathbf{u}|\mathbf{e})}{\prod_{u \sim \mathbf{u}} \Pr'(u|\mathbf{e})}$$

Optimizing the KL-Divergence

Let $\Pr(\mathbf{X})$ be a distribution induced by a Bayesian network \mathcal{N} having families $X\mathbf{U}$. Then IBP messages are a fixed point if and only if IBP marginals $\mu_u = BEL(u)$ and $\mu_{x\mathbf{u}} = BEL(x\mathbf{u})$ are a stationary point of:

$$\begin{aligned} & ENT'(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{e}) + \sum_{X\mathbf{U}} AVG'(\log \lambda_e(X)\Theta_{X|\mathbf{U}}) \\ &= - \sum_{X\mathbf{U}} \sum_{x\mathbf{u}} \mu_{x\mathbf{u}} \log \frac{\mu_{x\mathbf{u}}}{\prod_{u \sim \mathbf{u}} \mu_u} + \sum_{X\mathbf{U}} \sum_{x\mathbf{u}} \mu_{x\mathbf{u}} \log \lambda_e(x)\theta_{x|\mathbf{u}}, \end{aligned}$$

under normalization constraints:

$$\sum_u \mu_u = \sum_{x\mathbf{u}} \mu_{x\mathbf{u}} = 1$$

for each family $X\mathbf{U}$ and parent U , and under consistency constraints:

$$\sum_{x\mathbf{u} \sim y} \mu_{x\mathbf{u}} = \mu_y$$

for each family instantiation $x\mathbf{u}$ and value y of family member $Y \in X\mathbf{U}$.

Optimizing the KL-Divergence

- IBP fixed points are stationary points of the KL-divergence: they may only be local minima, or they may not be minima.
- When IBP performs well, it will often have fixed points that are indeed minima of the KL-divergence.
- For problems where IBP does not behave as well, we will next seek approximations $P_{r'}$ whose factorizations are more expressive than that of the polytree-based factorization.

Generalized Belief Propagation

If a distribution Pr' has the form:

$$\text{Pr}'(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{e}) = \frac{\prod_{\mathbf{c}} \text{Pr}'(\mathbf{C}|\mathbf{e})}{\prod_{\mathbf{s}} \text{Pr}'(\mathbf{S}|\mathbf{e})},$$

then its entropy has the form:

$$\text{ENT}'(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{e}) = \sum_{\mathbf{c}} \text{ENT}'(\mathbf{C}|\mathbf{e}) - \sum_{\mathbf{s}} \text{ENT}'(\mathbf{S}|\mathbf{e}).$$

When the marginals $\text{Pr}'(\mathbf{C}|\mathbf{e})$ and $\text{Pr}'(\mathbf{S}|\mathbf{e})$ are readily available, the ENT component of the KL-divergence can be computed efficiently.

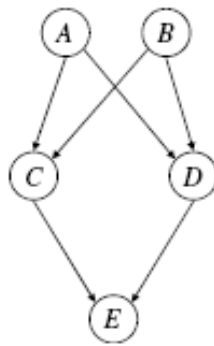
Joingraphs

While a jointree induces an exact factorization of a distribution, a joingraph G induces an approximate factorization:

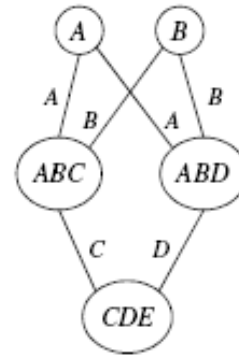
$$\text{Pr}'(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{e}) = \frac{\prod_i \text{Pr}'(\mathbf{C}_i|\mathbf{e})}{\prod_{ij} \text{Pr}'(\mathbf{S}_{ij}|\mathbf{e})}$$

which is a product of cluster marginals over a product of separator marginals. When the joingraph corresponds to a jointree, the above factorization will be exact.

Joingraphs



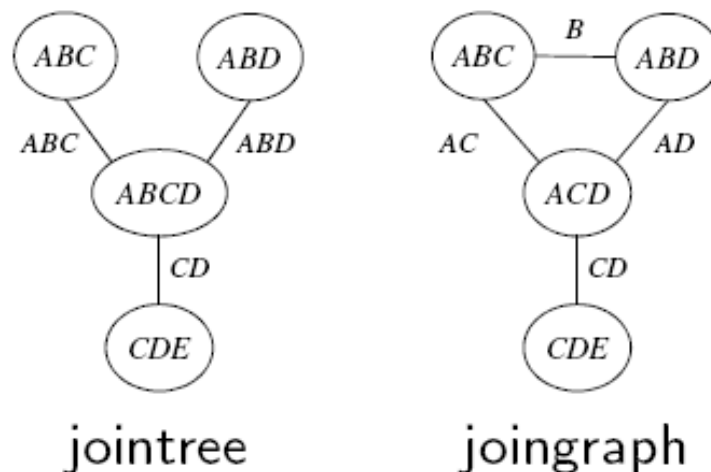
Bayesian network



dual join graph

A **dual join graph** leads to the factorization used by IBP.

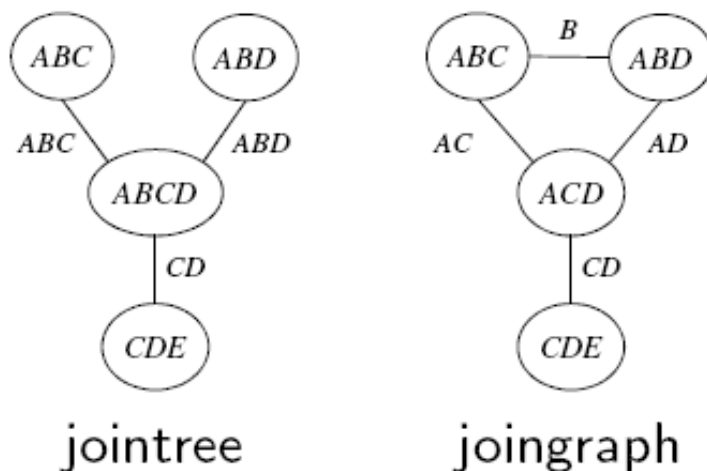
Joingraphs



The jointree induces the following factorization, which is exact:

$$\Pr'(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{e}) = \frac{\Pr'(ABC|\mathbf{e})\Pr'(ABD|\mathbf{e})\Pr'(ABCD|\mathbf{e})\Pr'(CDE|\mathbf{e})}{\Pr'(ABC|\mathbf{e})\Pr'(ABD|\mathbf{e})\Pr'(CD|\mathbf{e})}$$

Joingraphs



The joingraph induces the following factorization:

$$\Pr'(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{e}) = \frac{\Pr'(ABC|\mathbf{e})\Pr'(ABD|\mathbf{e})\Pr'(ACD|\mathbf{e})\Pr'(CDE|\mathbf{e})}{\Pr'(B|\mathbf{e})\Pr'(AC|\mathbf{e})\Pr'(AD|\mathbf{e})\Pr'(CD|\mathbf{e})}$$

Iterative Joingraph Propagation

Computing cluster marginals $\mu_{\mathbf{c}_i} = \Pr'(\mathbf{c}_i|\mathbf{e})$ and separator marginals $\mu_{\mathbf{s}_{ij}} = \Pr'(\mathbf{s}_{ij}|\mathbf{e})$ that minimize the KL-divergence between $\Pr'(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{e})$ and $\Pr(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{e})$

This optimization problem can be solved using a generalization of IBP, called **iterative joingraph propagation** (IJGP), which is a message passing algorithm that operates on a joingraph.

Iterative Joingraph Propagation

IJGP(G, Φ)

input:

G : a joingraph

Φ : factors assigned to clusters of G

output: approximate marginal $BEL(C_i)$ for each node i in the joingraph G .

main:

1: $t \leftarrow 0$

2: initialize all messages M_{ij}^t (uniformly)

3: **while** messages have not converged **do**

4: $t \leftarrow t + 1$

5: **for** each joingraph edge $i-j$ **do**

6: $M_{ij}^t \leftarrow \eta \sum_{C_i \setminus S_{ij}} \Phi_i \prod_{k \neq j} M_{ki}^{t-1}$

7: $M_{ji}^t \leftarrow \eta \sum_{C_j \setminus S_{ij}} \Phi_j \prod_{k \neq i} M_{kj}^{t-1}$

8: **end for**

9: **end while**

10: **return** $BEL(C_i) \leftarrow \eta \Phi_i \prod_k M_{ki}^t$ for each node i

Iterative Joingraph Propagation

Let $\Pr(\mathbf{X})$ be a distribution induced by a Bayesian network \mathcal{N} having families XU , and let C_i and S_{ij} be the clusters and separators of a joingraph for \mathcal{N} .

Then messages M_{ij} are a fixed point of IJGP if and only if IJGP marginals $\mu_{c_i} = BEL(c_i)$ and $\mu_{s_{ij}} = BEL(s_{ij})$ are a stationary point of:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{ENT}'(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{e}) + \sum_{C_i} \text{AVG}'(\log \Phi_i) \\ &= - \sum_{C_i} \sum_{c_i} \mu_{c_i} \log \mu_{c_i} + \sum_{S_{ij}} \sum_{s_{ij}} \mu_{s_{ij}} \log \mu_{s_{ij}} + \sum_{C_i} \sum_{c_i} \mu_{c_i} \log \Phi_i(c_i), \end{aligned}$$

under normalization constraints:

$$\sum_{c_i} \mu_{c_i} = \sum_{s_{ij}} \mu_{s_{ij}} = 1$$

for each cluster C_i and separator S_{ij} , and under consistency constraints:

$$\sum_{c_i \sim s_{ij}} \mu_{c_i} = \mu_{s_{ij}} = \sum_{c_j \sim s_{ij}} \mu_{c_j}$$

for each separator S_{ij} and neighboring clusters C_i and C_j .

Summary of IJGP so far

A spectrum of approximations.

IBP: results from applying IJGP to the dual joiningraph.

Jointree algorithm: results from applying IJGP to a jointree (as a joiningraph).

In between these two ends, we have a spectrum of joiningraphs and corresponding factorizations, where IJGP seeks stationary points of the KL-divergence between these factorizations and the original distribution.



More On the Power of Belief Propagation

- BP as local minima of KL distance
- BP's power from constraint propagation perspective.

Inference Power of Loopy

BP

- Comparison with iterative algorithms in **constraint networks**
- Zero-beliefs assignments \iff inconsistent
- ϵ -small beliefs – experimental study

Constraint networks

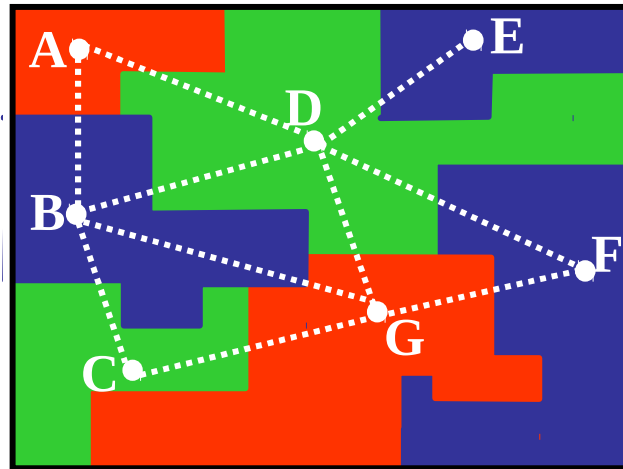
Map coloring

Variables: countries (A B C etc.)

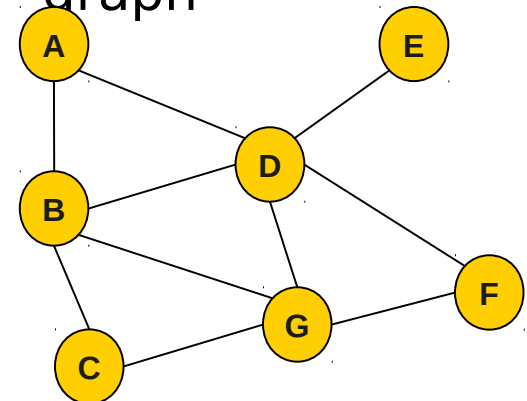
Values: colors (red green blue)

Constraints: **A ≠ B**, A ≠ D, D ≠ E, etc.

A	B
red	green
red	yellow
green	red
green	yellow
yellow	green
yellow	red

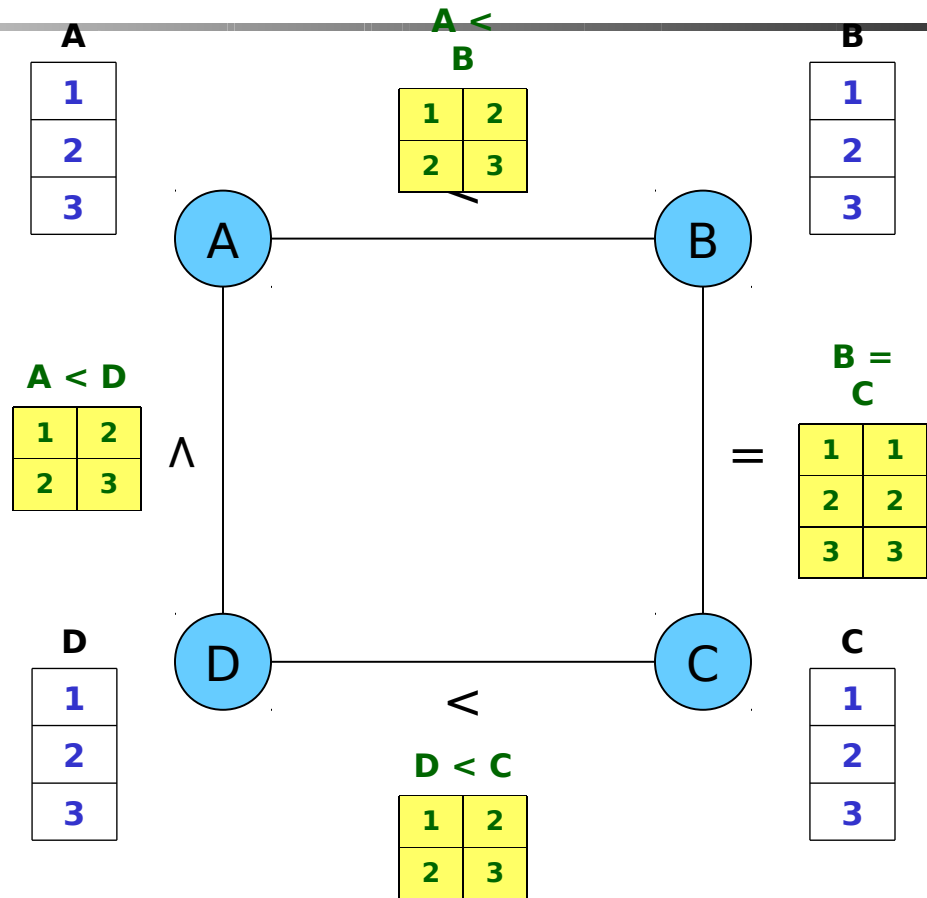


Constraint graph



Arc-consistency

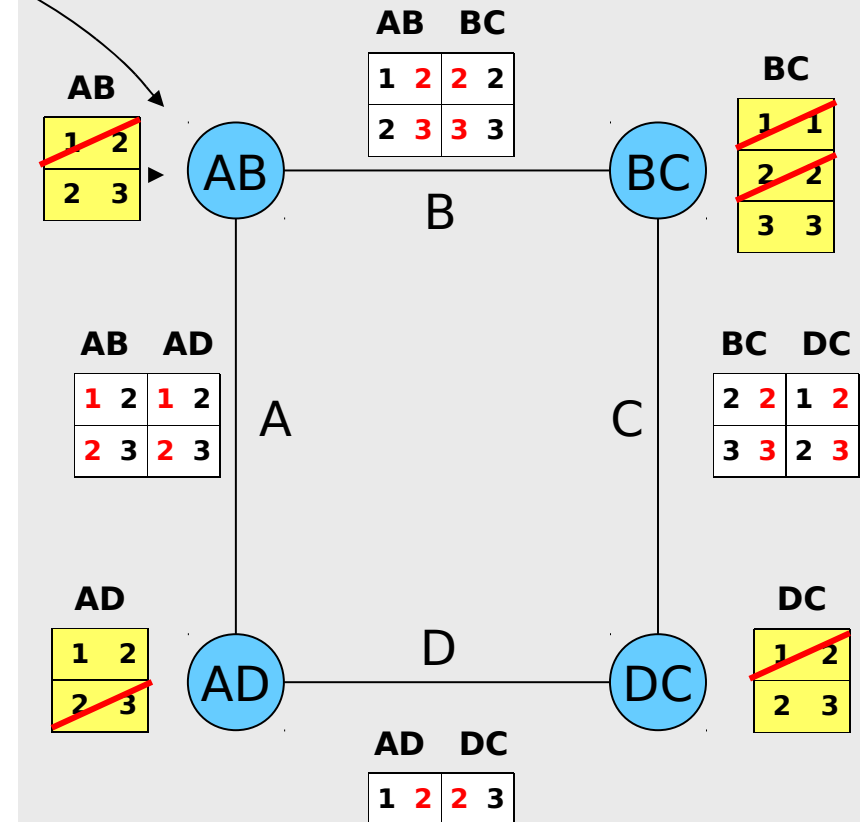
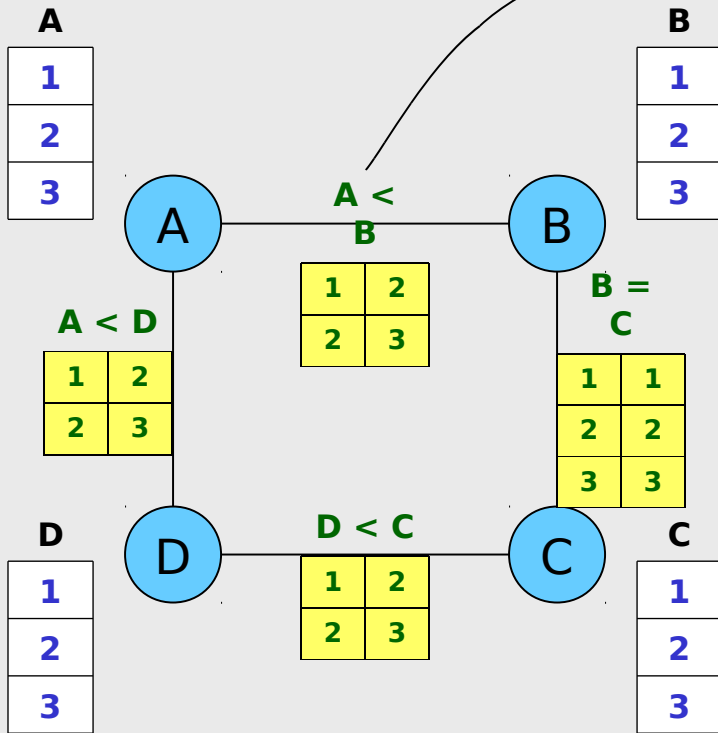
- Sound
- Incomplete
- Always converges (polynomial)



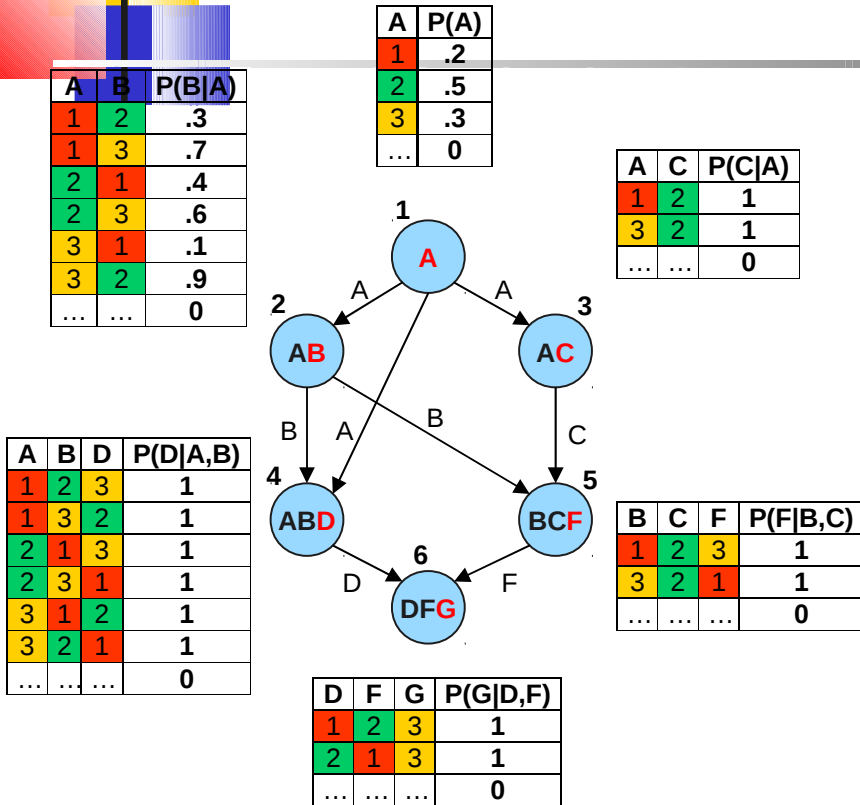
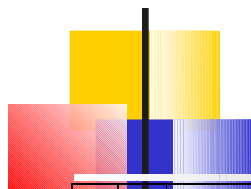
Relational Distributed Arc-Consistency

Primal

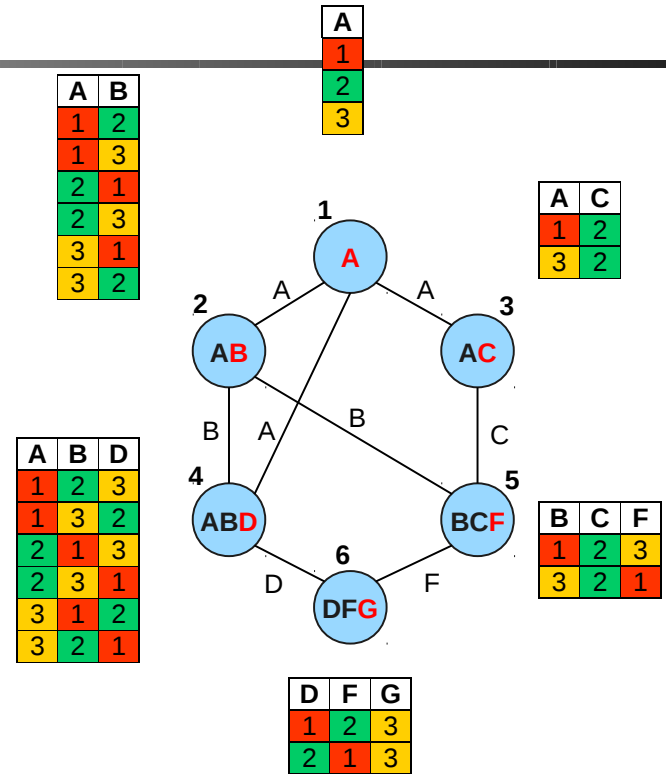
Dual



Flattening the Bayesian Network



Belief network



Flat constraint network



IBP – inference power for zero beliefs

- **Theorem:**

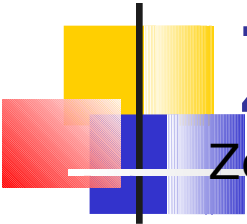
Trace of zero beliefs of **Iterative Belief Propagation** =
Trace of invalid tuples of **arc-consistency** on flat network

- **Soundness:**

- The inference of zero beliefs by IBP **converges** in a finite number of iterations
- **all the inferred zero beliefs are correct**

- **Incompleteness:**

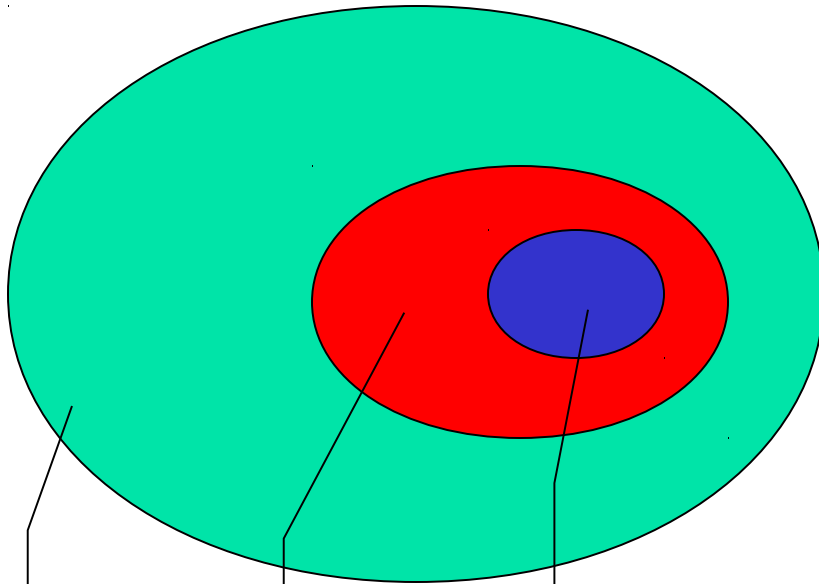
- IBP may not infer all the true zero beliefs



Zero and ϵ -Small Beliefs

Zero beliefs

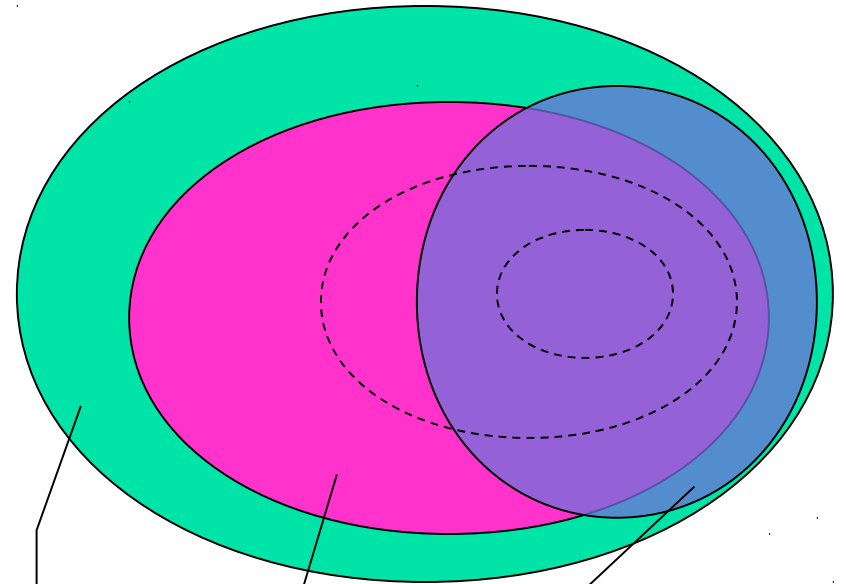
ϵ -small beliefs



of tuples

true zeros

LBP zeros



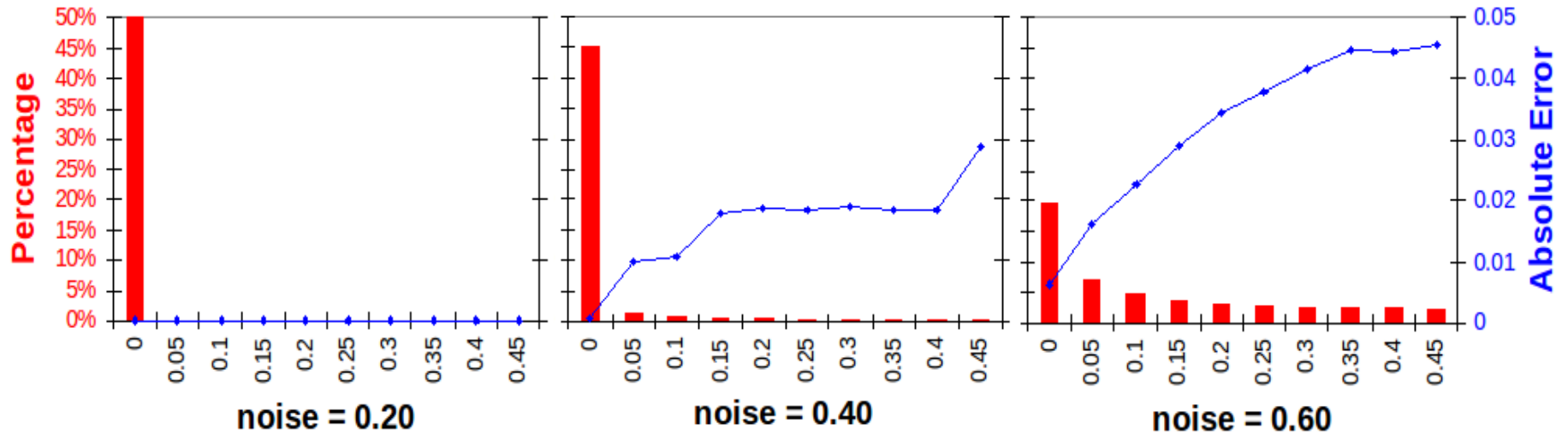
of tuples

true ϵ -small

LBP ϵ -small

Coding Networks

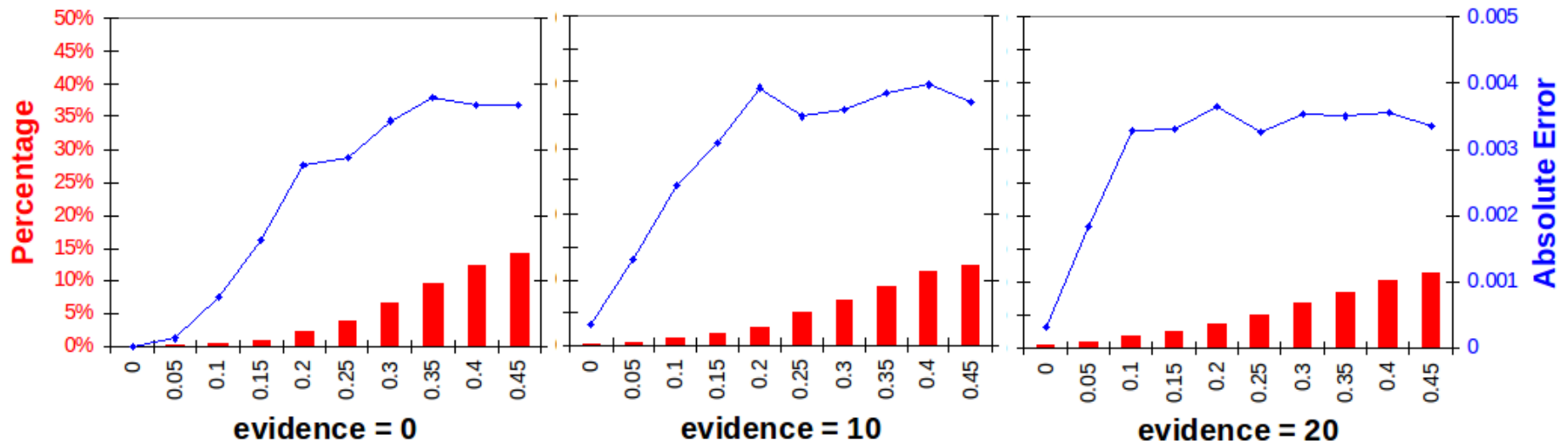
■ Distribution of exact beliefs ◆ Loopy BP Absolute Error



$N=200$, 1000 instances, treewidth=15

10x10 Grids

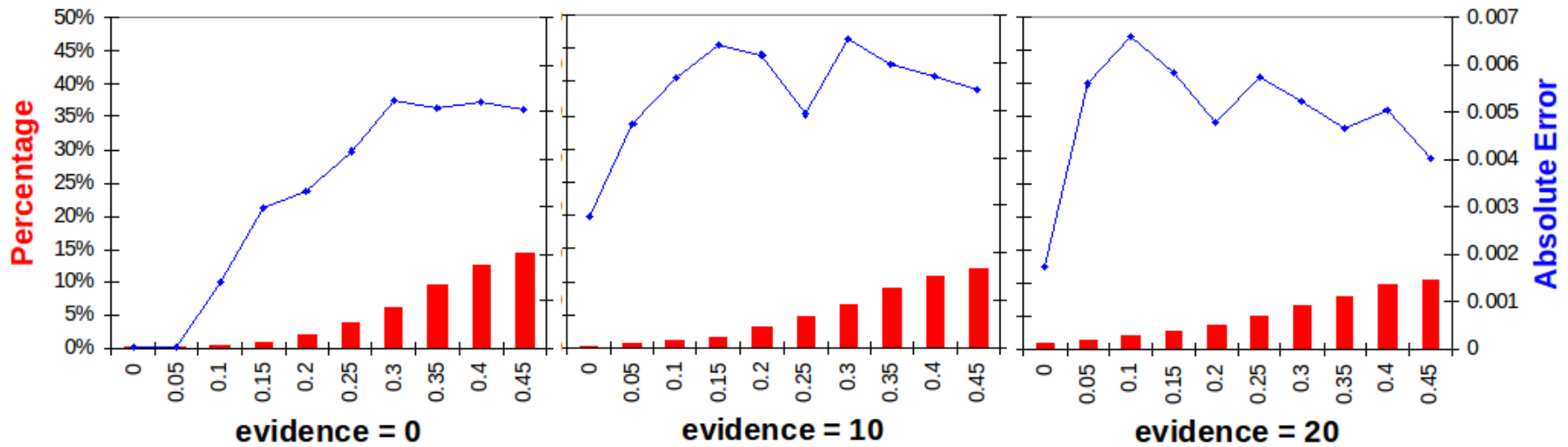
■ Distribution of exact beliefs ◆ Loopy BP Absolute Error



$N=100$, 100 instances, $w^*=15$

Random Networks

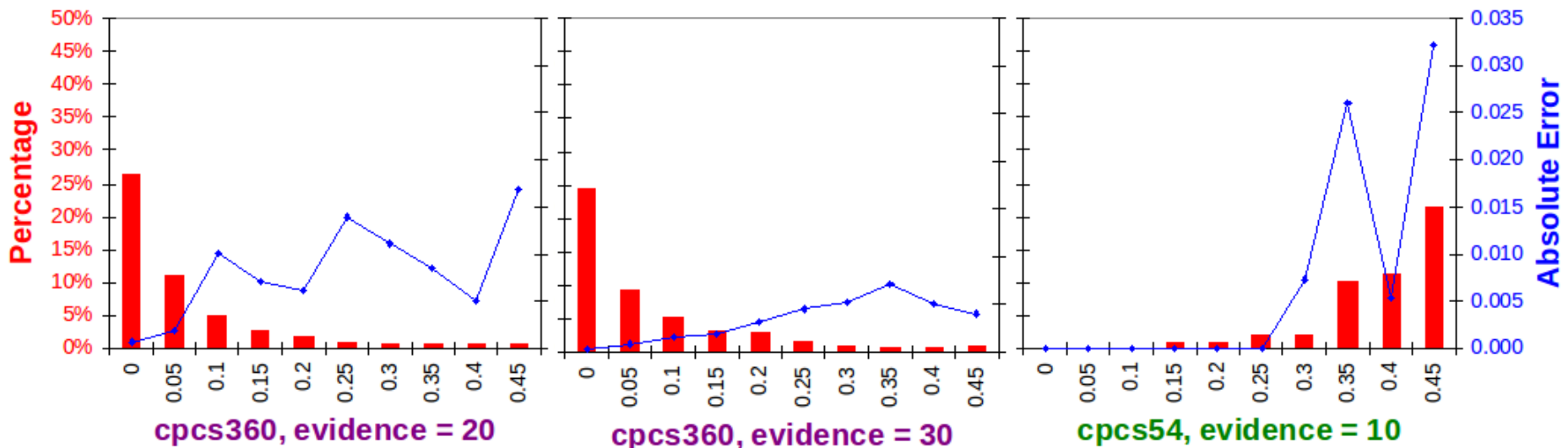
■ Distribution of exact beliefs ◆ Loopy BP Absolute Error



$N=80$, 100 instances, $w^*=15$

CPCS 54, CPCS360

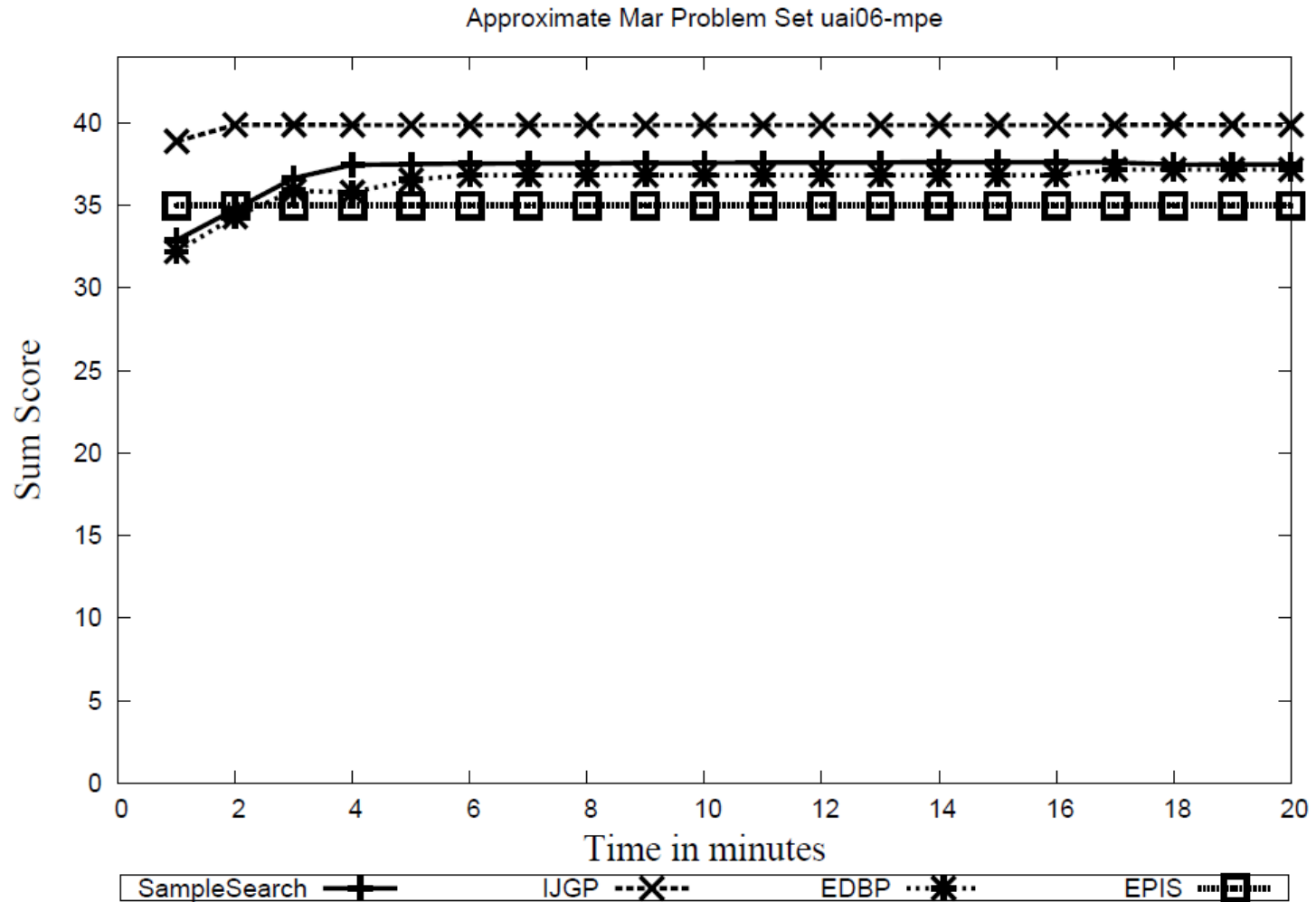
■ Distribution of exact beliefs ◆ Loopy BP Absolute Error



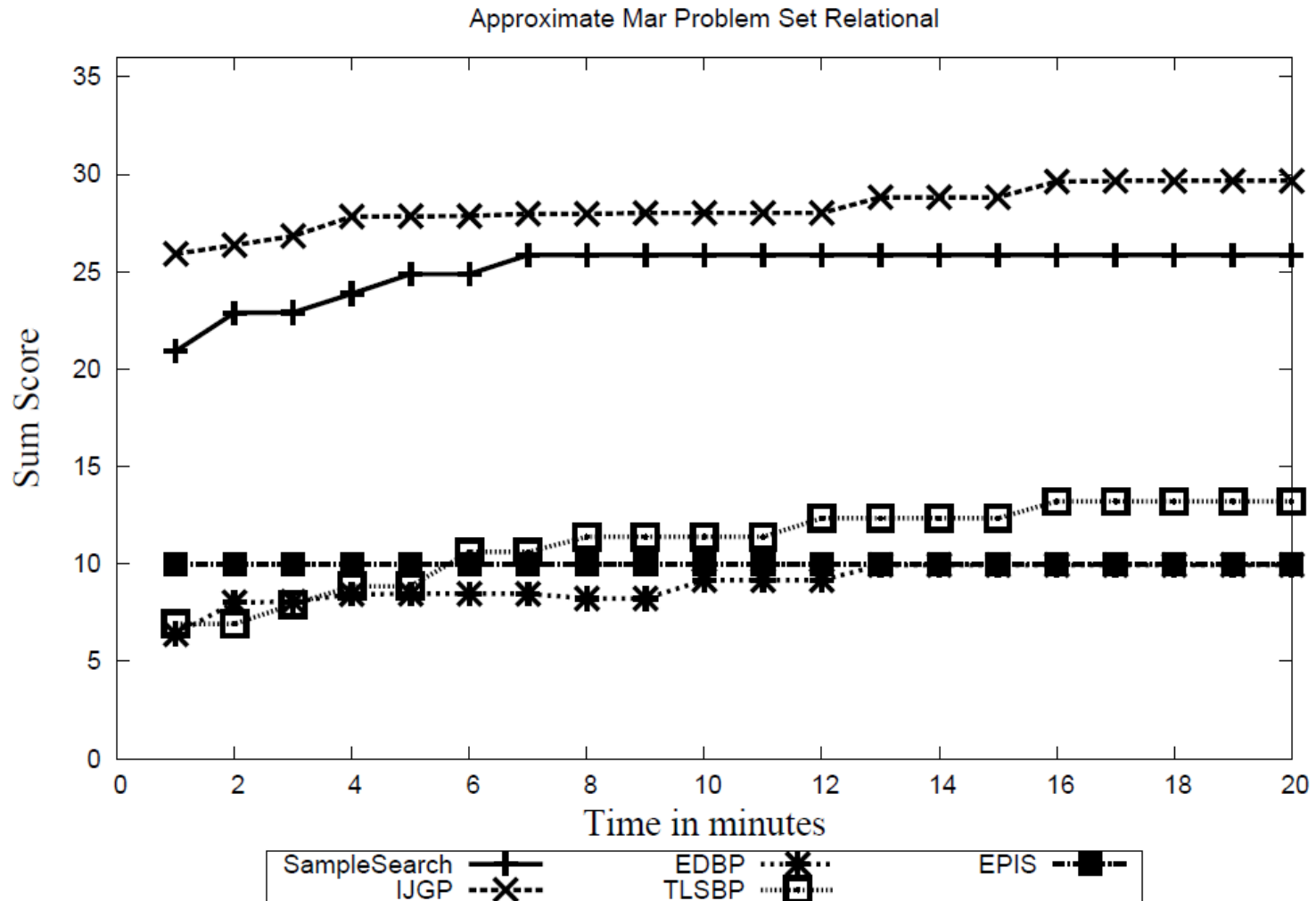
CPCS360: 5 instances, $w^*=20$

CPCS54: 100 instances, $w^*=15$

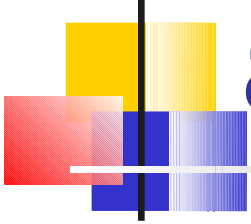
IJGP on UAI06 problems



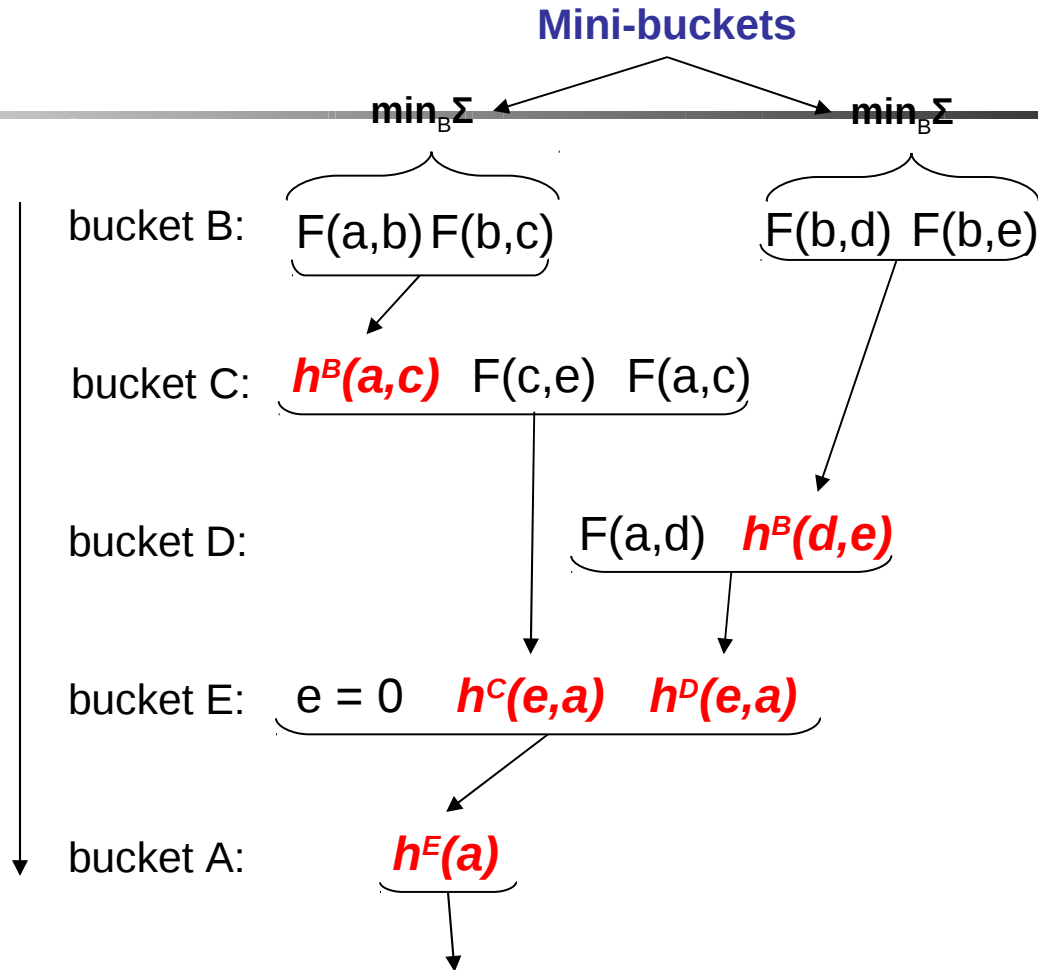
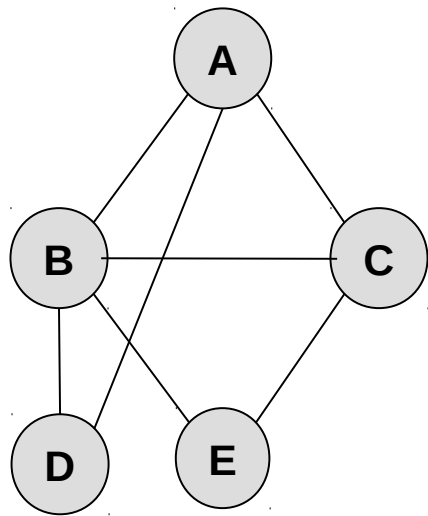
IJGP on Set Relational



Using Mini-bucket approximation in search



Mini-Bucket can be used to guide more than one solution



L = lower bound



Heuristic search

- Mini-buckets record upper-bound heuristics
- The evaluation function over $\bar{x}_p = (x_1, \dots, x_p)$

$$f(\bar{x}_p) = g(\bar{x}_p)h(\bar{x}_p)$$

$$g(\bar{x}_p) = \prod_{i=1}^{p-1} P(x_i | pa_i)$$

$$h(\bar{x}_p) = \prod h_j$$

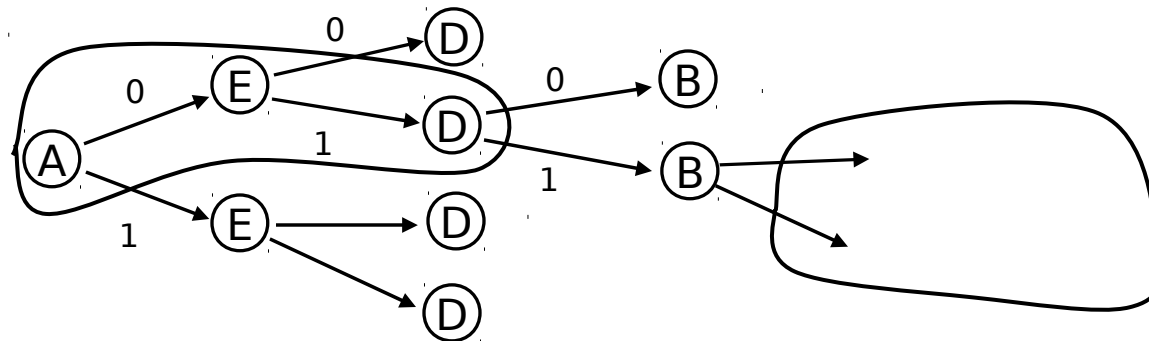
- **Best-first:** expand a node with maximal evaluation function $h \leq \text{budget}$
- **Branch and Bound:** prune if $f \leq$ upper bound
- **Properties:**
 - an exact algorithm
 - Better heuristics lead to more pruning

Heuristic Function

Given a cost function

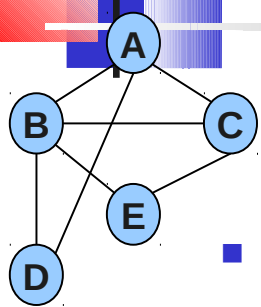
$$P(a,b,c,d,e) = P(a) \cdot P(b|a) \cdot P(c|a) \cdot P(e|b,c) \cdot P(d|b,a)$$

Define an evaluation function over a partial assignment as the probability of it's best extension



$$\begin{aligned}
 f^*(a,e,d) &= \max_{b,c} P(a,b,c,d,e) = \\
 &= P(a) \cdot \max_{b,c} P(b|a) \cdot P(c|a) \cdot P(e|b,c) \cdot P(d|a,b) \\
 &= g(a,e,d) \cdot H^*(a,e,d)
 \end{aligned}$$

MBE Heuristics

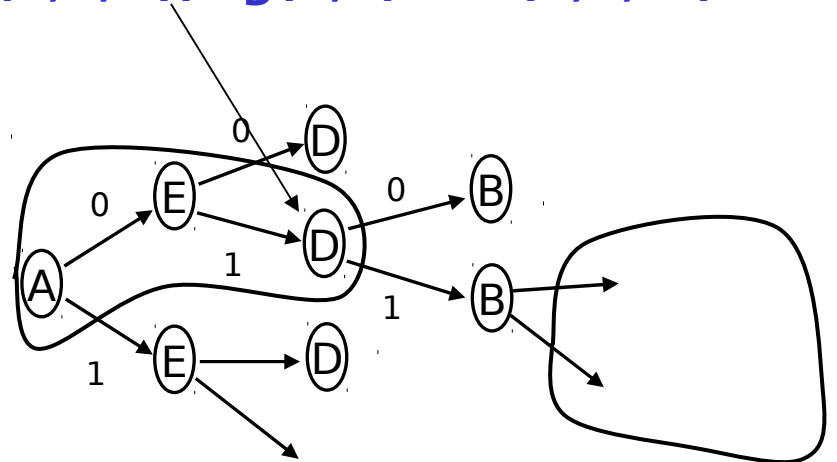
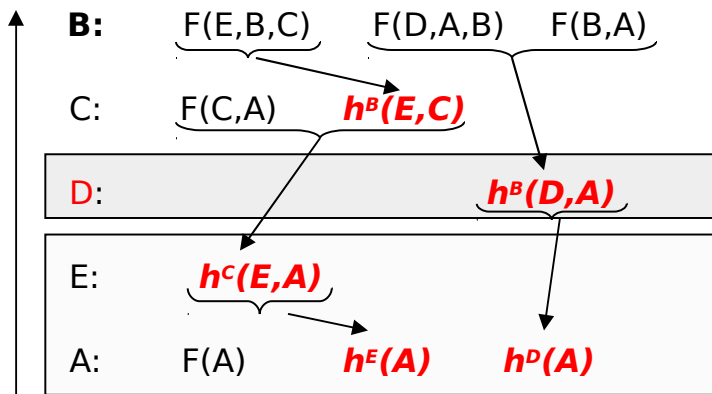


Cost Network

Given a partial assignment \mathbf{x}^p , estimate the cost of the best extension to a full solution

- The evaluation function $f(\mathbf{x}^p)$ can be computed using function recorded by the Mini-Bucket scheme

$$f(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{e}, \mathbf{D}) = g(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{e}) + H(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{e}, \mathbf{D})$$



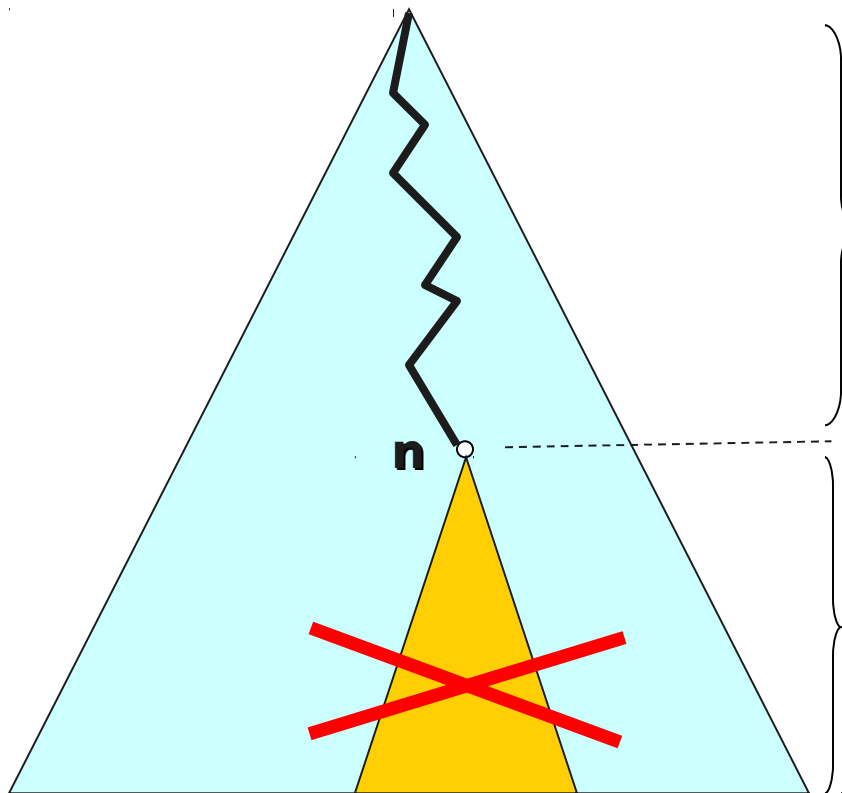
$$f(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{e}, \mathbf{D}) = \underbrace{F(\mathbf{a})}_{g} + \underbrace{h^B(\mathbf{D}, \mathbf{a}) + h^C(\mathbf{e}, \mathbf{a})}_{h - \text{is admissible}}$$



Properties

- Heuristic is consistent/monotone
- Heuristic is admissible
- Heuristic is computed in linear time
- **IMPORTANT:**
 - Mini-buckets generate heuristics of varying strength using control parameter – bound i
 - Higher bound \rightarrow more preprocessing \rightarrow stronger heuristics \rightarrow less search
 - Allows controlled trade-off between preprocessing and search

Classic Branch-and-Bound



OR Search Tree

Upper Bound **UB**

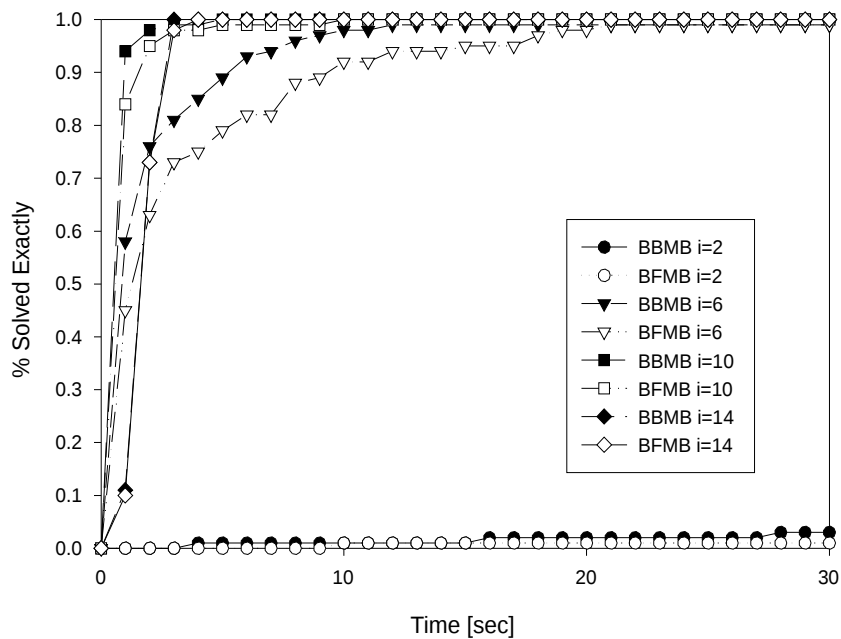
Lower Bound **LB**

$$\mathbf{LB(n) = g(n) + h(n)}$$

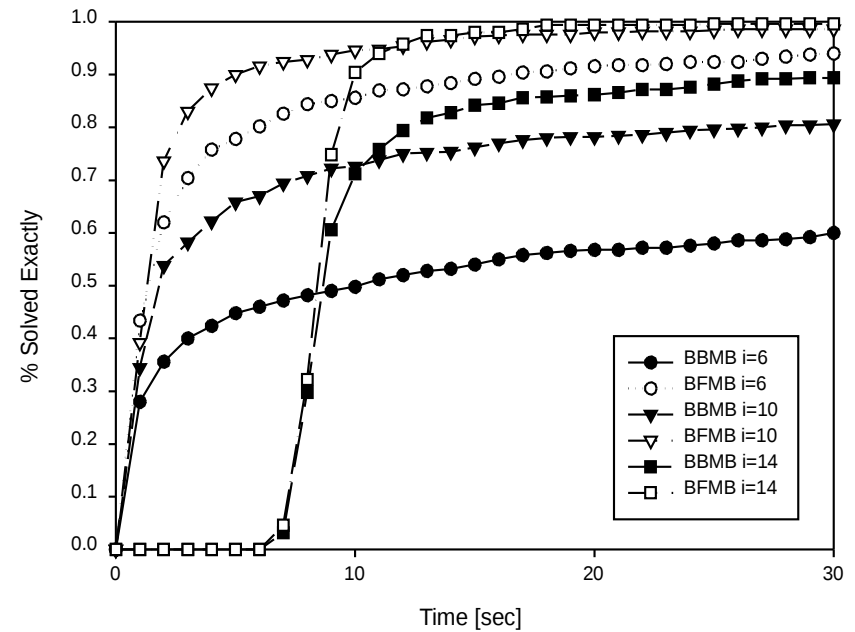
Prune if $LB(n) \geq UB$

$h(n)$ estimates
Optimal cost below n

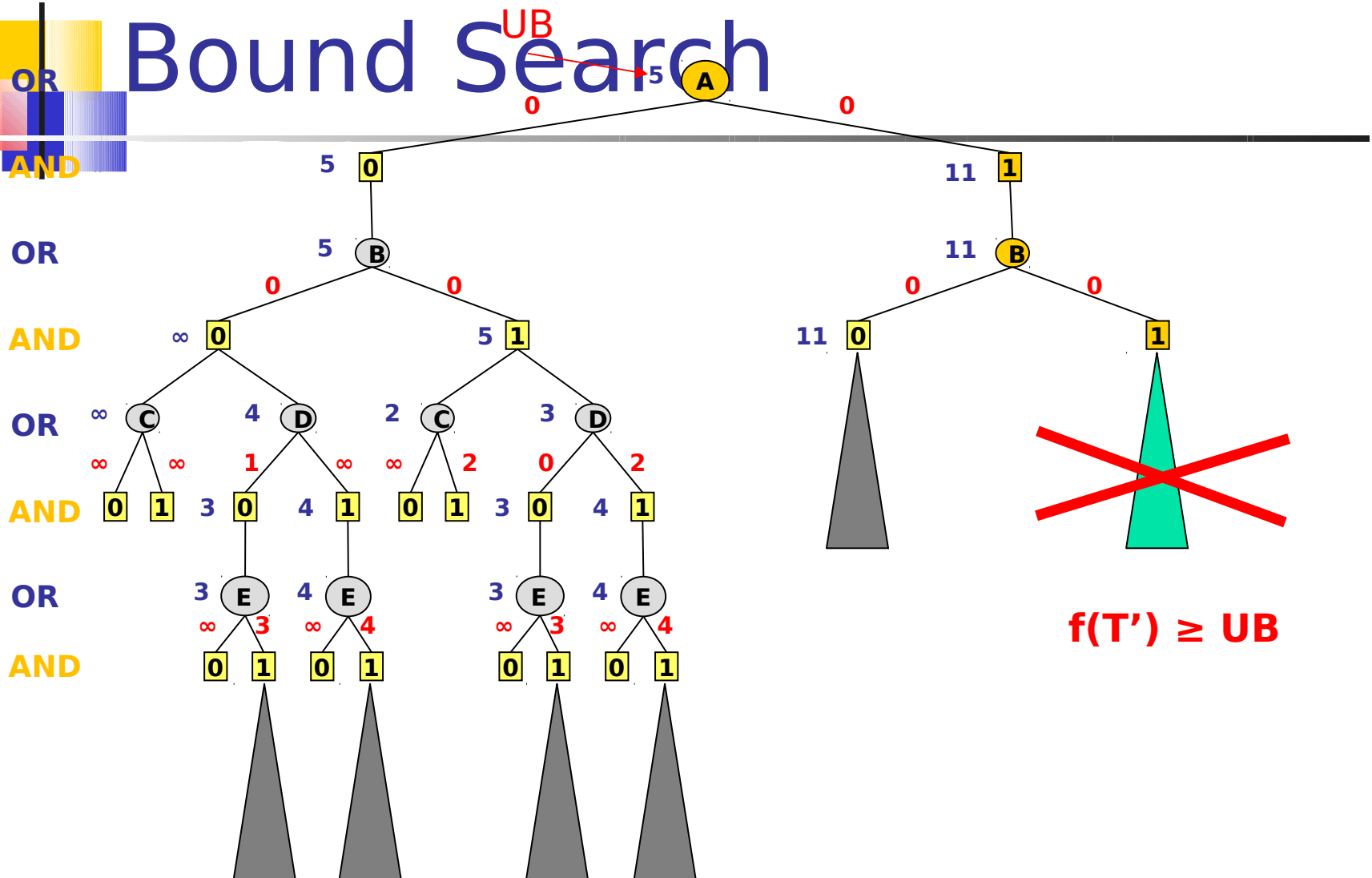
Empirical Evaluation of mini-bucket heuristics



Random Coding, $K=100$, noise 0.32

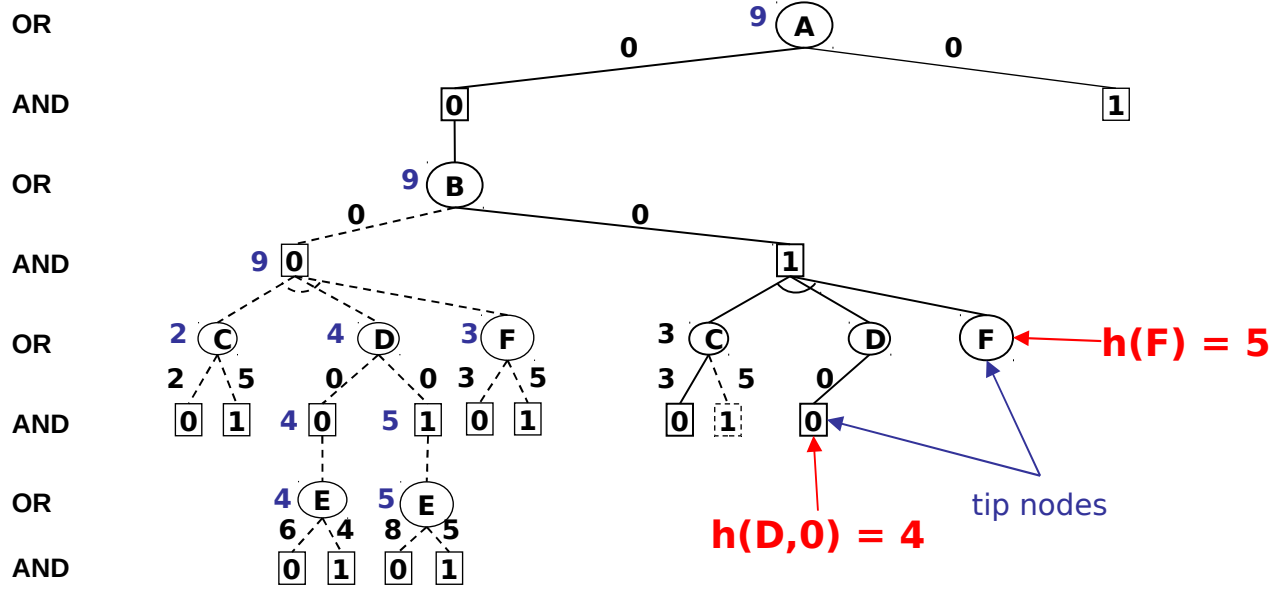
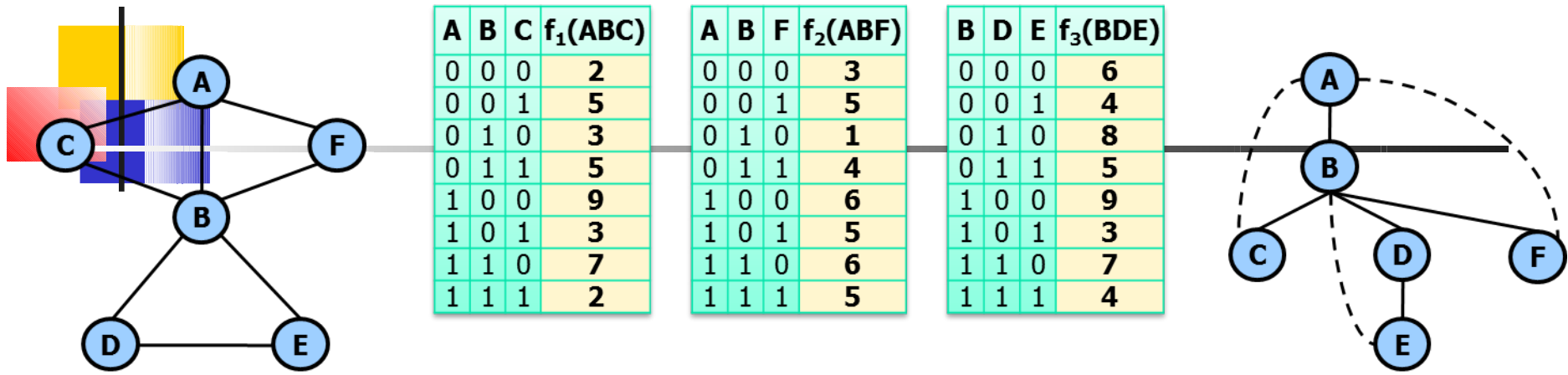


AND/OR Branch-and-Bound Search



$$f(T') \geq UB$$

Heuristic Evaluation Function



$$f(T') = w(A,0) + w(B,1) + w(C,0) + w(D,0) + h(D,0) + h(F) = 12 \leq f^*(T)$$



Software & Competitions

- **How to use the software**
 - <http://graphmod.ics.uci.edu/group/Software>
 - <http://mulcyber.toulouse.inra.fr/projects/toulbar2>
- **Reports on competitions**
 - UAI-2006, 2008, 2010 Competitions
 - PE, MAR, MPE tasks
 - CP-2006 Competition
 - WCSP task

Toulbar2 and aolib



toulbar2

<http://mulcyber.toulouse.inra.fr/gf/project/toulbar2>

(Open source WCSP, MPE solver in C++)

- aolib

<http://graphmod.ics.uci.edu/group/Software>

(WCSP, MPE, ILP solver in C++, inference and counting)

- Large set of benchmarks

<http://carlit.toulouse.inra.fr/cgi-bin/awki.cgi/SoftCSP>

<http://graphmod.ics.uci.edu/group/Repository>



UAI-2006 Competition

- **Team 1 (UCLA)**

- David Allen, Mark Chavira, Arthur Choi, Adnan Darwiche

- **Team 2 (IET)**

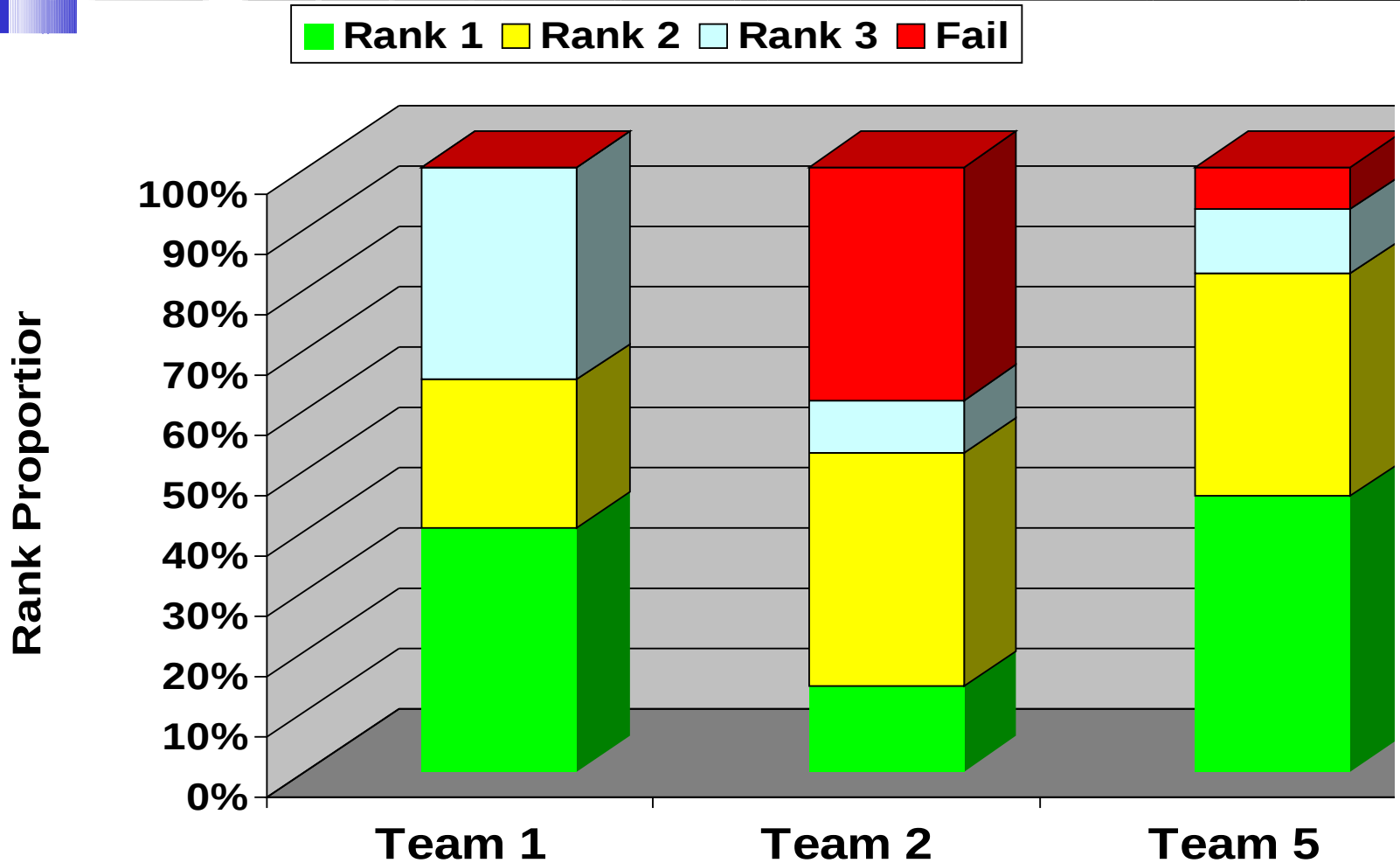
- Masami Takikawa, Hans Dettmar, Francis Fung, Rick Kissh

- **Team 5 (UCI)**

- Radu Marinescu, Robert Mateescu, Rina Dechter
- Used **AOBB-C+SMB(i)** solver for MPE

UAI-2006 Results

Rank Proportions (how often was each team a particular rank, rank 1 is best)

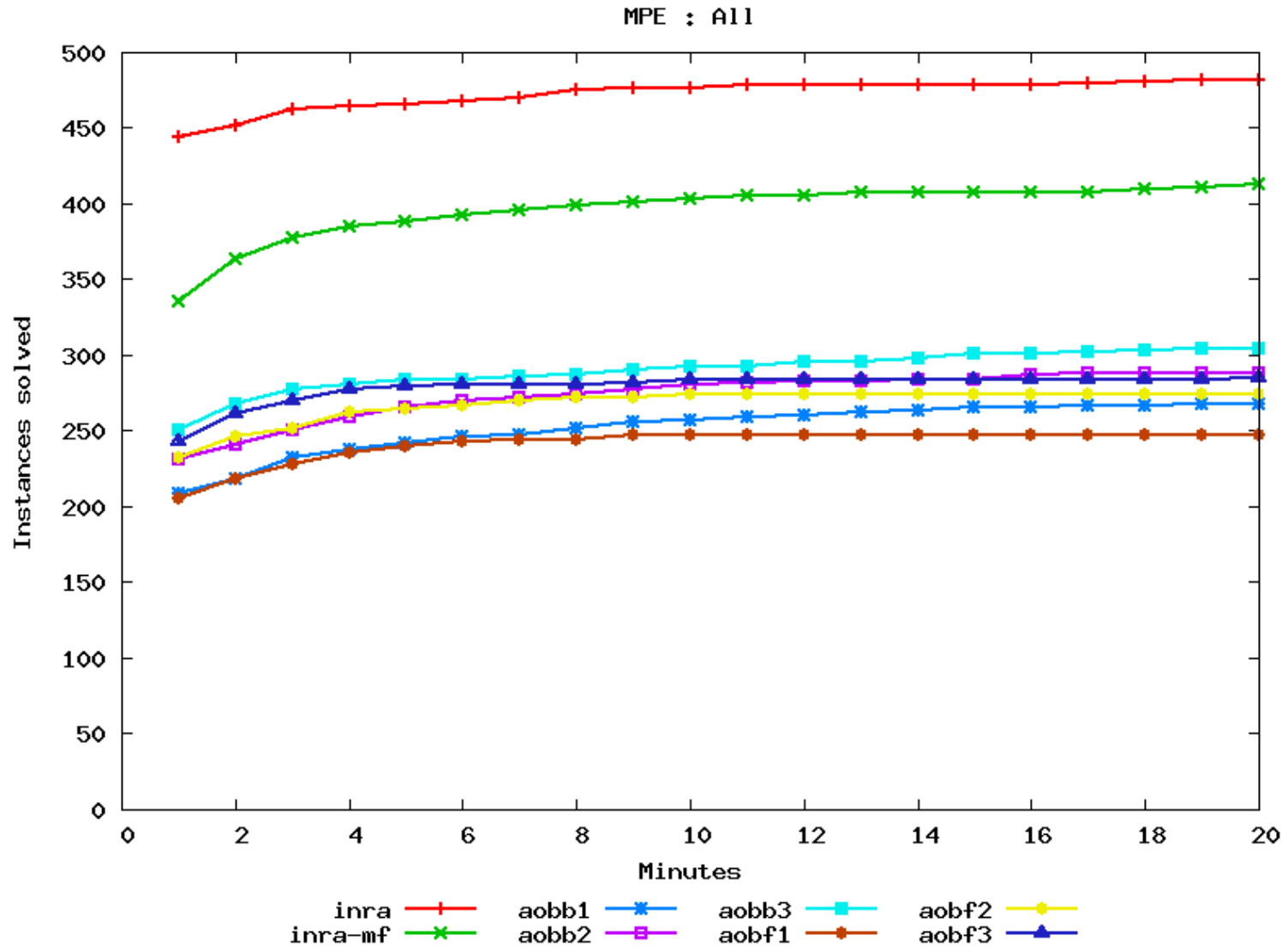




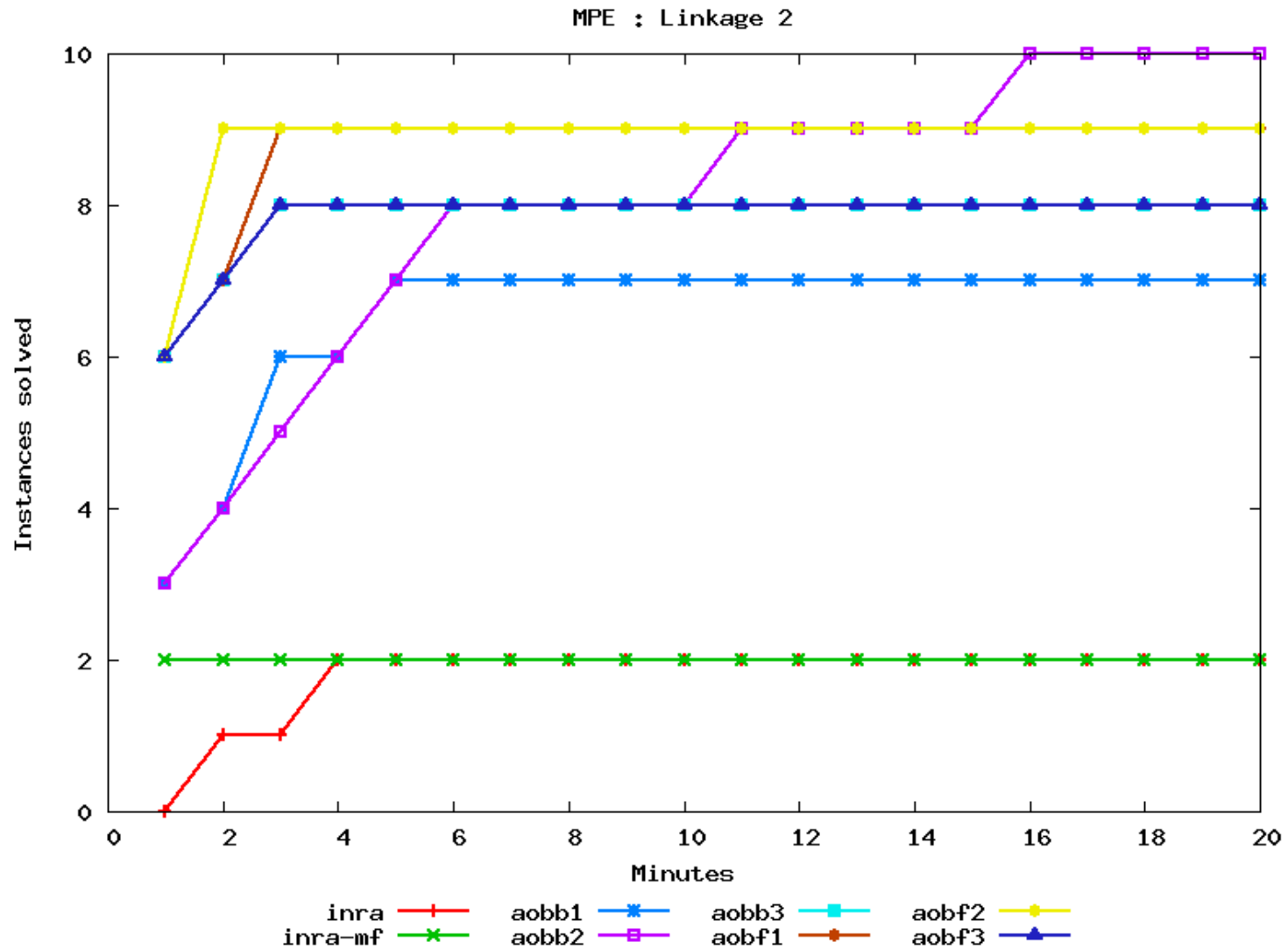
UAI-2008 Competition

- **AOBB-C+SMB(i) - (i = 18, 20, 22)**
 - AND/OR Branch-and-Bound with pre-compiled mini-bucket heuristics (i-bound), full caching, static pseudo-trees, constraint propagation
- **AOBF-C+SMB(i) - (i = 18, 20, 22)**
 - AND/OR Best-First search with pre-compiled mini-bucket heuristics (i-bound), full caching, static pseudo-trees, no constraint propagation
- **Toulbar2**
 - OR Branch-and-Bound, dynamic variable/value orderings, EDAC consistency for binary and ternary cost functions, variable elimination of small degree (2) during search
- **Toulbar2/BTD**
 - DFBB exploiting a tree decomposition (AND/OR), same search inside clusters as toulbar2, full caching (no cluster merging), combines RDS and EDAC, and caching lower bounds

UAI-2008 Results



UAI-2008 Results (contd.)





UAI-2010 Competition

- Tasks
 - PR: probability of evidence
 - MAR: posterior marginals
 - MPE: most probable explanation
- 3 tracks: 20 sec, 20 min, 1 hour
 - PR, MAR - 204 instances; MPE - 442 instances
 - CSP, grids, image alignment, medical diagnosis, object detection, pedigree, protein folding, protein-protein interaction, relational model, segmentation
- Exact and approximate solvers



UAI-2010 Results

- MAR task (Mateescu et al, JAIR2010), (Dechter et al, UAI2002)
 - **1st place** (20 min, 1 hour) - (impl. by Vibhav Gogate)
 - Anytime **IJGP(i)** with randomized orderings and SAT based domain pruning
- PR task (Gogate, Domingos and Dechter UAI2010)
 - **1st place** (20 min, 1 hour) - (impl. by Vibhav Gogate)
 - Formula **SampleSearch** with IJGP(3) based importance distribution, w-cutset sampling, minisat based search, rejection control
- MPE task
 - **3rd place** (all tracks) - (impl. by Lars Otten)
 - **AND/OR BnB** with mini-buckets, randomized min-fill based pseudo tree, LDS based search for initial upper bound (Marinescu and Dechter, AIJ2009), (Otten and Dechter, ISAIM2010)